

AC 4474

COUNTY BOROUGH OF SOUTH SHIELDS



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1947.



W. CAMPBELL LYONS

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF SOUTH SHIELDS.

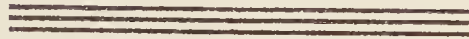


ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

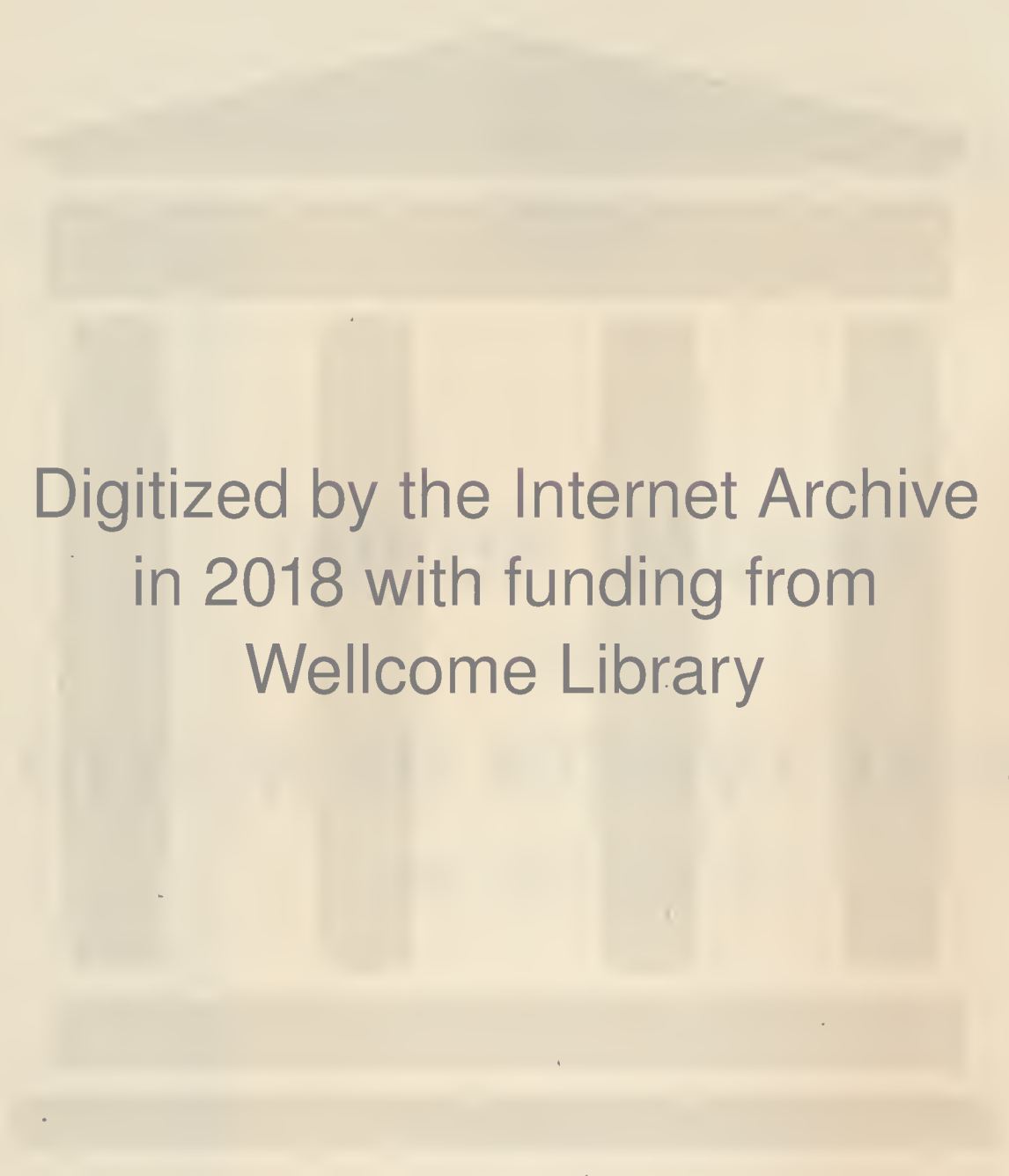
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1947.



W. CAMPBELL LYONS

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30115528>.

CONTENTS.

Chairmen of Committees	4
Staff of Public Health Department and General (Municipal) Hospital	4
Preface	10
Statistics and Social Conditions	12
Vital Statistics	16
Sanitary Circumstances and Housing	37
Inspection and Supervision of Food	46
Notifiable Diseases	52
Isolation Hospitals	54
General Hospital	56
Municipal Laboratories	57
Cancer	62
Tuberculosis	64
Venereal Diseases	69
Maternity and Child Welfare	73
Meteorology	82

CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES

at 31st December, 1947.

<i>Health Committee</i>	Alderman W. P. McANANY.
<i>Hospitals Sub-Committee</i> ..	Alderman W. P. McANANY.
<i>Slaughterhouse Sub-Committee</i>	Councillor W. PICKERING.
<i>Maternity and Child Welfare Committee</i>	Mrs. Councillor M. E. SUTTON, J.P.
<i>Education Committee</i>	Councillor J. GARNETT, J.P.
<i>Education Welfare Sub-Committee</i>	THE MAYOR, (Mrs. Alderman M. J. PEEL.)
<i>Housing Committee</i>	Councillor T. W. PEEL.
<i>Town Improvement Committee</i>	Alderman J. W. MITCHELL, J.P.
<i>Social Welfare Committee</i>	Alderman C. H. SMITH, J.P.

STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Post or Appointment.	Name.	Qualifications.
*Medical Officer of Health Chief Tuberculosis Officer, Principal School Medical Officer.	W. CAMPBELL LYONS.	M.B., ch.B., D.P.H.
Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Deputy School Medical Officer.	D. B. BRADSHAW.	M.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.
Clinical Medical Officer, Venereal Diseases.	D. J. MACKINNON.	M.B., ch.B.
Tuberculosis Officer and Medical Officer, Cleadon Park Sanatorium.	O. W. MARIENFELD.	M.D., L.R.C.S., L.R.C.F.P.S., D.P.H.
Assistant School Medical Officers.	H. LEVY. EVELYN H. BOLT.	M.B., B.S. M.B., B.S.
Assistant Medical Officer, Maternity and Child Welfare and School Health Service.	ANNIE K. WATTIE.	M.A., M.B., ch.B., D.P.H.
Assistant Medical Officer, Maternity and Child Welfare.	ANNE D. LINDSAY.	M.B., ch.B.

Post or Appointment.	Name.	Qualifications.
Ear, Nose, and Throat Surgeon. (School Health Service).	P. MACMURRAY ‡	M.B., D.L.O.
Consult. Ophthalmologist (School Health Service)	T. GOWANS. ‡	M.B., ch.B.
Senior Dental Officer.	F. INNES.	L.D.S.
School Dental Surgeon.	J. L. REID. ‡	L.D.S.
Dental Surgeon (Mat. & Child Welfare, etc.)	P. CHRISTENSEN. ‡	L.D.S., B.D.S. (appointed, 10/4/47.)
Public Vaccinator.	J. I. SMITH. T. W. CARSTAIRS. A. de REDDER.	M.B., ch.B. M.B., ch.B. M.B., B.S.
Borough Analyst.	C. J. H. STOCK.	B.Sc., F.I.C.
Chief Food Inspector and Chief Sanitary Inspector	H. B. PARRY.	Cert. R.S.I., and Meat and Smoke Inspector's Certificates. Cert. in Sanitary Science.
District Sanitary and Housing Inspectors.	R. W. WEIR. J. McVAY. J. WANN. J. R. WILSON. (Resigned, 29/9/47). T. H. WILLIAMS. (Resigned, 9/7/47). A. SIMPSON. (Commenced 1/12/47).	Cert. R.S.I. do. and Meat Inspector's Cert. do. do. do. do. Cert. R.S.I. Cert. R.S.I.
Inspector under the Shops Acts.	J. E. TURNBULL. (Resigned 2/8/47).	---
Vaccination Officer, etc.	A. T. LAWSON.	
Superintendent Health Visitor.	MISS E. MYCOCK.	S.R.N., S.C.M. and H.V. Certificate.
Lay Supervisor of Midwives.	MRS. S. A. INNES.	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
Matron, Midwifery Part II., Training School.	MISS E. M. MARLOW. (Commenced 1/1/47)	S.R.N., S.C.M. Midwife's Teacher's Cert.

* Also Medical Officer to the North East Durham Joint Smallpox Hospital Board ‡ Part time Officials also in Consultant or Private Practice.

Post or Appointment.	Name.	Qualifications.
Health Visitors.	MISS M. MUNRO.	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
	MISS R. BARRELL.	do.
	MRS. E. COWLEY.	do.
	(Resigned 26/47).	
	MISS J. B. CLARK.	do.
	MISS C. W. EVERSON.	do. and H.V. Certificate
	MISS M. SHERRY.	do. do.
	MISS J. SIMPSON.	do. do.
	MRS. P. STEWART.	do. do.
	MRS. B. M. HAGGARTY	do. do.
	MISS B. LYNCH.	do. do.
	MISS E. RAMSAY.	S.R.N. and S.C.M.
School Nurses	MRS. D. MCPHEE.	do.
		do.
	MISS J. G. NISBETT. Died 8/4/48.	
	MRS. E. HAYDEN.	do.
	MRS. E. APPLEBY. (Commenced 10/7/47).	do.
Chief Admin. Clerk.	J. YEOMAN.	Cert. R.S.I.
Senior Admin. Clerk	C. HYMERS.	do. and Meas Inspector's Cert.
Admin. Asst. Clerk.	J. HILTON.	Cert. R.S.I.
Clerks (as at 31/12/47).	G. F. KERSHAW.	
	W. JOHNSON.	
	A. E. BENNETT.	
	S. PRATT.	
	H. BROOKS.	
	MISS E. PARK.	
	MISS M. SPRY.	
	MISS J. TINMOUTH.	
	MISS N. THOMSON.	
	MRS. M. BADGER.	
	MISS E. HARGREAVES.	
	MISS O. SNAITH	
	MISS M. GIBSON.	
	MISS J. DOUGLAS.	
	MISS M. TENNET.	
Dental Attendant, School Health Service.	MISS O. DEAKIN.	
Matron, Deans Isolation Hospital.	MISS M. M. BUCHANAN.	S.R.N.

Post or Appointment.	Name.	Qualifications.
Sister-in-Charge, Cleadon Park Sanatorium.	MISS G. J. TULIP.	S.R.N., S.C.M.
V. D. Clinic, Nurses.	MRS. M. DODDS.	S.R.N.
Male Nurse.	MISS A. L. RIDLEY.	S.R.N.
Male Attendant	J. B. BENTLEY.	
	R. F. McDEARMID.	
	(Commenced 16/6/47).	
	W. LEWTHWAITE.	
	(Resigned 17/2/47).	
Scabies Clinic Attendant.	MRS. C. A. GLATTBACH	
Ambulance Supt. (1).		
Domiciliary Midwives (21)		
Home Helps and Domestic Helpers (3).		
Rodent Operator (1).		

GENERAL HOSPITAL STAFF.
At 31st December, 1947.

Post or Appointment.	Name.	Qualifications.
MEDICAL STAFF. (a)		
Medical Superintendent.	Resident— N. STRANG.	M.B., Ch.B.
Medical Registrar.	H. A. ROBINSON.	M.B., B.S.
House Physicians (3)	J. M. STARKS. J. B. RYDER. M. HUTCHINSON.	L.R.C.P. & S. M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O., M.R.C.P.I. L.R.C.P. & S.
House Surgeons (2)	E. RITCH. (Vacancy).	M.B., Ch.B., L.M.
Obstetric Medical Officer.	J. MARY R. HEBER.	M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
(b) SPECIALIST.— non-resident—		
(1) Full-time—		
Gynaecologist.	T. G. ROBINSON.	M.R.C.S., M.R.C.O.G.
Physician.	J. B. ARTHUR.	M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.P.
Anaesthetist.	T. D. CULBERT.	M.B., Ch.B., D.A.
(2) Part-time.		
Surgeon.	J. M. HAMILTON ROSS.	M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.
Ear, Nose and Throat.	P. MACMURRAY.	M.B., D.L.O.
Chest Physician.	O. W. MARIENFELD.	M.D., L.R.C.S., L.R.C.F.P.S. D.P.H.
Radiologist.	W. H. MACKAY.	M.B., B.S.
Dental Surgeon.	P. I. CHRISTENSEN.	L.D.S., B.D.S.
Pathologist (Joint Appointment with Ingham Infirmary).	K. S. RODAN.	M.D.
NURSING STAFF — (a)		
Matron.	Administrative.— Miss A. ROUSE.	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Deputy Matron	Miss L. MOWBRAY.	do.
Asst. Matron.	Miss M. RAINE.	do.
Sister Tutors (2).		
Admin. Sister. (1)		
Home Sisters (2)		

Post or Appointment.	Name.	Qualifications.
(b) General Nursing.— Sisters (13). Staff nurses (10). Student nurses, male (10). do. female (72) Enrolled asst. nurses.— male (6). female (17). Others (9).		
(c) Maternity.— Midwifery Sister in charge (1) Midwifery Sisters (4). Staff Midwives. (3) Pupil Midwives. (21)		
(d) C.N.R.— Enrolled asst. nurses (4).		
(e) Part-time.— Ward Sister (OP) (1) Staff Nurses (5). Enrolled assistant nurse, female (1). Intermediate asst. nurses, female (2).		
TECHNICAL STAFF.— Physiotherapy Dept.— Physiotherapists.	MISS M. BARRASS. R. LANFEAR.	
X-Ray Department. Radiographer.	MISS L. ELDINS.	
Dispensary.— Pharmacist.	J. HANNON.	
Dispenser.	MRS. M. WALKER.	
Junior Assistant (1).		
Pathological Service.— Technicians (2).		
Students (2).		
Typist (1).		
Administrative Staff.— Secretary.	J. L. DAVISON.	
Clerks, etc. (11).		

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

I have the honour to present my annual report on the health and sanitary conditions in the County Borough and the work of the Public Health Department during the year, 1947.

The civilian population, according to the Registrar General's estimate, increased by 1420 on the previous year. The birth rate increased from 22 per 1000 of the population to 24, while the death rate remained the same as in 1946, 13.4 per 1000. The infant mortality rate further declined from 66 per 1000 births to 48. This is the lowest infant mortality rate ever recorded in the Borough.

The death rate from tuberculosis was also the lowest rate for that disease ever recorded in South Shields. It was 0.81 per 1000 of the population and was, for the first time, below unity. Some of the reduction is no doubt due to the cases being notified in an earlier stage of the disease and consequently are treated earlier. Some years ago it was necessary to call attention to the fact that a good many cases were not notified until the disease was advanced and there was little hope of recovery. Now the cases are being referred to the Chest Clinic and notified earlier with the result that there is a much better prospect of the disease being arrested by modern methods of treatment. The public, too, are more enlightened as to the nature of the disease and there appears to be less dread of it so that medical advice is sought earlier. With an improvement in the housing conditions and the clearance of the slum area, it is not unreasonable to hope for a further substantial reduction both in the incidence and mortality of tuberculosis.

The incidence of infectious disease was the lowest for many years with the exception of poliomyelitis. There were only 15 confirmed cases of diphtheria with two deaths. In one case the patient was not immunised and in the other there was a complication which may have contributed to the fatal issue. There were no deaths from scarlet fever, measles or enteric fever and, for the first time, there were no deaths from whooping cough.

Eighteen cases of poliomyelitis were notified. In fourteen of these the diagnosis was confirmed and of these two died. Its prevention, like the prevention of many infectious diseases, is the avoidance of overcrowded places; the avoidance of people with "colds", especially if they cough and sneeze; personal cleanliness, especially hand washing before meals; keeping food protected from flies and the avoidance of fatigue. Some concern was expressed that the disease might be spread in public baths. The water in the baths is perfectly safe but there may be some risk of infection, as in every other overcrowded place, if the baths are overcrowded.

Judging from the sickness rates and the death rates, a paradoxical method of estimating the health of a community, the health of the town was never better.

Progress in repairing dilapidated property was slow although there was some improvement in the supply of building materials. Meantime the condition of the houses in the areas scheduled for clearance has deteriorated and it is to be hoped that before long it will be possible to deal with these unhealthy areas.

I have pleasure in recording my thanks to the various committees of the Council for their consideration and help in the many matters I had to place before them and to my staff for their loyal and conscientious co-operation during the year.

W. CAMPBELL LYONS,

Medical Officer of Health.

*Public Health Department,
Stanhope Road,
South Shields.*

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE BOROUGH.

Area of Borough (including inland water but excluding foreshore and tidal water)	4,104 acres.
Population at Census, 1931	113,455
Resident population. Registrar-General's estimate for year 1947	101,780
Number of inhabited houses at end of 1947 (according to Rate Books)	31,232
Rateable Value at 1st April, 1947	£579.862
Produce of a penny rate (estimate for 1947-48)	£2.278

Social Conditions.

The principal industries are shipbuilding, ship-repairing, coal-mining and export. Under the Government's Development Schemes, new factories have been established for the manufacture of dolls, electrical and engineering fittings, gowns, lingerie, slippers, chemicals and pickles.

UNEMPLOYMENT :—

I am indebted to Mr. J. H. Evers, Manager of the Employment Exchange, for the yearly information relating to unemployment which is summarised below.

The average numbers on the live registers taken from the monthly returns, were as follows :—

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947*
Men (age 21-64)	586	624	530	1,689	1,692
Young Men					
(age 18-20)	33	31	32	73	65
Boys (age 16-17)	33	34	37	56	
Boys (age 14-15)	33	38	51	58	335
Women (age 21-64)	145	117	203	415	
Young Women					73
(age 18-20)	38	35	55	64	
Girls (age 16-17)	35	28	32	50	73
Girls (age 14-15)	39	53	87	59	
Total	942	960	1,027	2,464	2,165

* Owing to the fuel crisis, no figures were available for February, and only the total males and females (all ages) for March.

Of the different groups the percentage of unemployed was as follows :—

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947*
Men (age 21-64)	4	4	4	9	8
Young Men					
(age 18-20)	3	2	2	6	3
Boys (age 16-17)	2	2	3	4	
Boys (age 14-15)	3	4	5	5	
Women (age 21-64)	4	3	5	9	6
Young Women					
(age 18-20)	4	3	4	4	3
Girls (age 16-17)	3	2	3	4	
Girls (age 14-15)	4	6	10	6	
Total	4	4	4	8	7

The maximum and minimum numbers of persons unemployed during the year were :—

MAXIMUM.	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947*
Men (age 21-64)	754	697	823	1,958	2,808
Young Men					
(age 18-20)	43	36	58	85	141
Boys (age 16-17)	53	51	61	65	
Boys (age 14-15)	57	80	83	134	
Women (age 21-64)	206	172	358	568	584
Young Women					
(age 18-20)	66	55	92	82	199
Girls (age 16-17)	46	43	52	78	
Girls (age 14-15)	75	97	150	129	
MINIMUM.	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Men (age 21-64)	453	536	374	1,051	1,362
Young Men					
(age 18-20)	24	26	21	55	23
Boys (age 16-17)	18	15	21	46	
Boys (age 14-15)	20	13	14	17	
Women (age 21-64)	73	82	55	330	229
Young Women					
(age 18-20)	19	22	12	52	17
Girls (age 16-17)	23	8	23	39	
Girls (age 14-15)	9	31	22	24	

* See note above re fuel crisis.

HEALTH INSURANCE :—

The number of insured persons in the Borough on 1st January, 1948, was 50,174, as compared with 51,218 a year previously.

The number of prescriptions dispensed during 1947 was 226,199, at a cost of £16,809, as compared with 221,590 during 1946, at a cost of £12,058.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE :—

The following information regarding Public Assistance during the years 1943 to 1947 has been supplied from time to time by the Director of Social Welfare :—

(1) Number of persons who received Out-door Relief :—

Year.	Ordinary.			Unemployed.		
	Men.	Women.	Children.	Men.	Women.	Children.
1943	867	1,256	1,361	40	36	99
1944	794	1,153	1,235	70	64	159
1945	794	1,141	1,318	97	97	273
1946	767	1,218	1,345	59	60	149
1947	777	1,236	1,292	91	87	178

(2) Number of persons who also received Out-door Medical Relief :—

Year.	Ordinary.			Unemployed.		
	Men.	Women.	Children.	Men.	Women.	Children.
1943	29	133	55	—	—	—
1944	30	93	41	—	—	—
1945	23	106	39	—	—	—
1946	22	133	80	2	5	7
1947	24	128	62	5	5	11

Extracts from Vital Statistics.

Total. Male. Female.

Live Births :—

LIVE BIRTHS :					
Legitimate	2,342	1,165	1,177	{ Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	24.0
Illegitimate	99	51	48		
Still Births				Rate per 1,000 total births (live and still- births) .....		20
Legitimate	49	32	17		
Illegitimate	2	2			
Deaths	1,364	740	624	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	13.4

	<i>Deaths.</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 total Births.</i>
Deaths from puerperal causes :—		
Puerperal sepsis	—	—
Other puerperal causes	5	2.01
Death rate of infants under one year of age :		
All infants per 1,000 live births	48	
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	48	
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegiti- mate live births	51	
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	205	
,, ,, Measles (all ages)	—	
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	—	
,, ,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	13	

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.

The Registrar General has estimated the population for 1947 to be 101,780. This is an increase on the previous year of 1,420. The natural increase—excess of births over deaths—was 1,077.

Births.

There were 2,441 babies born in 1947, a birth rate of 24.0 per 1000 of the population. This is the highest birth rate since 1924, when it was 24.3 per 1000.

The proportion of male to female births was 1,216 males to 1,225 females. There were 99 illegitimate births, 51 males and 48 females. This is equal to 4.1% of the total births and is a decrease on the number of illegitimate births in recent years.

There were only 51 still births, 34 males and 17 females : 2.0 per cent of the total births, also a substantial reduction on the number of still births in recent years.

The birth rate in South Shields as compared with the country generally was as follows :—

	<i>Live Births.</i>	<i>Still Births.</i>
England and Wales	20.5	0.50
126 County Boroughs and great towns	23.3	0.62
148 smaller towns	22.2	0.54
London Administrative County	22.7	0.49
South Shields	24.0	0.50

Deaths.

There were, during 1947, 1,364 deaths among South Shields residents, males 740 and females 624, a death rate of 13.4 per 1000 of the population. The rate was exactly the same as in 1946.

Included in the number of deaths are 53 deaths among residents who died in other areas, but 147 deaths of non-residents are excluded.

The death rate for South Shields as compared with the country generally was as follows :—

England and Wales	12.0
126 County Boroughs and great towns	13.0
148 smaller towns	11.9
London Administrative County	12.8
South Shields	13.4

The death rate for South Shields in the four quarters of the year was as follows :—

1st quarter	18.5
2nd quarter	12.7
3rd quarter	10.7
4th quarter	11.9

Infant Mortality.

The infant mortality rate was 48 per 1000 births. This is the lowest rate ever recorded for South Shields. The previous lowest rate was 51 in 1944.

Maternal Mortality.

There were five deaths among mothers as a result of pregnancy and parturition, a rate of 2.01 per 1000 total births. The rate for 1946 was 0.9 per 1000.

Zymotic Death Rate.

There were two deaths from diphtheria, both were girls, one of whom had not been immunised. 13 deaths occurred from enteritis among children under two years of age. There were no deaths from scarlet fever, measles, enteric fever and for the first time on record, none from whooping cough.

The chief causes of death were as follows :—

	<i>No. of deaths.</i>	<i>Percentage of total.</i>
Heart diseases	257	18.8
Cancer	205	15.0
Tuberculosis	81	5.9
Pneumonia	83	6.1
Bronchitis	96	7.0
Arterio-sclerosis, etc.	65	4.8
Cerebral haemorrhage, Apoplexy, etc.	145	10.6
Nephritis	39	2.9
Violence and accidents	56	4.1
Influenza	15	1.0
Prematurity and diseases of early infancy	52	3.8

The age at death is summarised as follows :—

	<i>No. of deaths.</i>	<i>Percentage of total.</i>
Under 1 year	118	8.7
1-4 years	27	2.0
5-14 years	16	1.2
15-24 years	36	2.6
25-34 years	40	2.9
35-44 years	71	5.2
45-59 years	231	16.9
Over 60 years	825	60.5

Coroners' inquests were held in respect of 85 deaths. In 8 cases the Coroner ordered a post-mortem examination, but it was found unnecessary to hold inquests. There were 52 deaths which were not certified by a medical practitioner and on whom no inquest or Coroner's post-mortem examination was held.

532 deaths or 39 per cent, of the total occurred in institutions, as follows :—

General Hospital and Harton Institution	408*
Ingham Infirmary	88*
Deans Hospital	4
Institutions outside the Borough	32

* Exclusive of 134 deaths in the General Hospital and Harton Institution, and 8 in the Ingham Infirmary, among non-residents of the Borough.

The 32 deaths in institutions outside the Borough occurred as follows :—

Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle	2
General Hospital, Newcastle	2
Shotley Bridge Emergency Hospital	3
Gateshead Mental Hospital	7
Other Hospitals and Sanatoria	18

The causes of death in institutions are set out in Table 3, page 33.

In the following table, the South Shields death rates in 1947 are compared with provisional rates for the country generally, the county boroughs and the smaller towns.

	Death rate per 1,000 population.								Deaths per 1,000 live births.	
	All Causes	Typhoid Fever	Smallpox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	Infant Mortality Rate
England and Wales	12.0	.00	.00	.01	.00	.02	.01	.09	5.8	41
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns	13.0	.00	.00	.02	.00	.03	.01	.09	8.0	47
148 Smaller Towns	11.9	.00	.00	.02	.00	.02	.01	.08	3.7	36
London	12.8	.00	—	.01	.00	.02	.01	.08	4.8	37
South Shields	13.4	—	—	—	—	—	.02	.13	5.3	48

The tabulation of deaths as given in Table 1, page 20, follows the Detailed International List of Causes (1938 Revision), and the classification has been done in accordance with the rules contained in the Registrar-General's Manual in connection with that List.

The fourth (1929 Revision) of the International List was in use in South Shields from 1937 to 1945. A principal change in the system of classification is that whereas in the earlier Rules (1929 and previously), rules were given for the selection of a chief cause of death where the medical certificate gave two or more jointly stated causes, the 1938 Rules in general, accept the condition given by the medical practitioner as the primary cause of death as set out in part I of the Certificate.

It has been found locally that this change of procedure has led to an increase in the number of deaths assigned to Intra-cranial lesions (Apoplexy, etc.), and Bronchitis with a corresponding decrease in the number assigned to Arterio-sclerosis and Heart Diseases.

At the request of the Ministry of Health the short list of the causes of death as supplied by the Registrar-General is included in the report (Table 1 (A), page 28) in order that the relation between the local tabulation and the statistics supplied by the Registrar-General may be compared. There is substantial agreement, but as the Registrar-General points out, the classification of some deaths in respect of which the certifying medical practitioners have given indefinite causes is modified in the light of further information obtained by him from them by special enquiries; this possible source of discrepancy should be borne in mind.

TABLE I.—CONTINUED.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	M. F.	All Ages	AGES AT DEATH.																							
			0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-30	30-35	35-40	40-45	45-50	50-55	55-60	60-65	65-70	70-75	75-80	80+			
59a. Rheumatoid arthritis	2	5																1	2	1	2	1				
b. Other chronic articular rheumatism	1	1																			1					
61. Diabetes mellitus	2	5	1					1	1										1	3						
62.3. Other diseases of pituitary gland																										
63b. Exophthalmic goitre		1																								
c. Myxoedema and cretinism		4																								
65a. Addison's disease	1	1											1					1	1	2						
IV. DISEASES OF THE BLOOD AND BLOOD FORMING ORGANS.																										
72a. Primary purpura	1	1																								
b. Haemophilia	1	1							1																	
73a. Pernicious anaemia		2																								
d. Other anaemias		1																								
74a. Leukaemia	2	1													2											
75c. Other diseases of spleen	1	1																								
VI. DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM AND SENSE ORGANS																										
81. Meningitis	2	2	2																							
82.3. Myelitis (unstated)	1	1																								
83a. Cerebral haemorrhage	42	54	96																							
bc. Cerebral embolism, etc.	27	18	45																							
d. Hemiplegia, etc.	1	3	4																							
84a. Mental deficiency		1	1																							
85. Epilepsy	2	4	6																							
86. Convulsions (under 5 years)	2	3	5																							
87c. Paralysis agitans	2	1	3																							

87*d*. Disseminated sclerosis 1
 89*a*. Otitis and other diseases of the
 ear—not mastoid 1

VII.—DISEASES OF THE CIRCULATORY SYSTEM.

91*b*. Endocarditis, subacute bacterial
 c. " other acute and sub-
 acute 1
 92*a*. Aortic valvular disease 4
 *b*1. Mitral valve disease 15
 *b*2. Other valvular disease 3
 c. Unspecified valvular lesions, etc. 5
 93*b*. Chronic myocarditis (rheumatic) 3
 *c*1. Cardio-vascular degeneration 25
 *c*2. Myocardial fatty degeneration 2
 *c*3. Other myocardial degeneration 28
 d. Myocarditis not distinguished as
 acute or chronic 11

94*a*. Diseases of the coronary arteries 34
 b. Angina pectoris without mention
 of coronary disease 5

95*a*. Functional heart disease 1
 b. Heart disease (rheumatic) 1
 c. Other heart diseases 5

97. Arteriosclerosis 21
 98. Gangrene 2
 100*a*. Varices 1

b. Other diseases of the veins 1
 102. High blood pressure 17

VIII.—DISEASES OF THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM.

104. Diseases of nasal fossa and
 annexa 1

106*a*3. Acute bronchitis with myocardial
 disease 1

TABLE I.—CONTINUED.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	M.	F.	All Ages	AGES AT DEATH.																					
				0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-30	30-35	35-40	40-45	45-50	50-55	55-60	60-65	65-70	70-75	75-80	80+	
106a4. " " arteriosclerosis	1	.....	1																					1
a6. " " without complications	6	7	13	3					1									2	1		1	2	3		
b3. Chronic bronchitis with myocardial disease	12	9	21																2	2	5	9	3		
b4. Chronic bronchitis with arteriosclerosis	1	.....	1															1						
b6. Chronic bronchitis without complications	24	9	33											1	4	6	3	2	5	6	1	5			
c3. Bronchitis (not specified) with myocardial disease	6	8	14															1		2	6	3	2		
c6. Bronchitis (not specified) without complications	7	4	11	5	.....	1									1						1		2	
107.2. Bronchopneumonia without influenza	33	26	59	25	2		2											2	3	3	8	3	5		
108.2. Lobar pneumonia without influenza	7	5	12	3					1						3				2	1		1	2		
109.2. Pneumonia (unspecified)	6	6	12	7	2								1												
111c. Chronic or unspecified congestion of lung	3	2	5										1												
112.3. Asthma with myocardial disease	7	3	10												2			2		1	1	3			
112.6. " without complications	9	7	16							1			1	1	1	1		3	3	2	3	1			
IX.—DISEASES OF THE DIGESTIVE SYSTEM.																									
115d. Septic sore throat	1	1	2																				1	1	
117a. Ulcer of the stomach	8	2	10																	4					
b. Ulcer of the duodenum	3	1	4											2	1										

TABLE 1 (A)—CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE IN THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF SOUTH SHIELDS DURING THE YEAR 1947. (SUPPLIED BY THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL).

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Sex.	All Ages.	AGE GROUPS.					
			0—	1—	5—	15—	45—	65—
ALL CAUSES	M F	739 627	66 54	15 10	8 8	79 69	200 142	371 344
1. Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	M F	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
2. Cerebro-spinal fever	M F	2 1	1 1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
3. Scarlet fever	M F	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
4. Whooping cough	M F	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
5. Diphtheria	M F	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
6. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	M F	2 44	1	1 2	.....	1 25	14 4	2 1
7. Other forms of tuberculosis	M F	24 8	1	1 2	2 2 1	16 3 3	1	.....
8. Syphilitic diseases	M F	7 6	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	2
9. Influenza	M F	1 6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 6
10. Measles	M F	6	.....	.....	1	.....	1	4
11. Acute polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis	M F	..... 2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

TABLE 1 (A.)—CONTINUED.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Sex.	All Ages.	AGE GROUPS.					
			0—	1—	5—	15—	45—	65—
12. Acute infectious encephalitis	M	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
	F	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....
13. Cancer of the buccal cavity and oesophagus (M) : uterus (F)	M	19	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	9
	F	14	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	4
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum	M	28	.....	.....	.....	1	16	11
	F	20	.....	.....	.....	2	5	13
15. Cancer of the breast	M	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	F	16	.....	.....	.....	4	6	6
16. Cancer of all other sites	M	72	.....	1	.....	6	36	29
	F	49	.....	.....	.....	7	15	27
17. Diabetes	M	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
	F	5	1	.....	1	.....	1	2
18. Intra-cranial vascular lesions	M	65	.....	.....	.....	.....	15	50
	F	79	.....	.....	.....	.....	24	55
19. Heart diseases	M	145	.....	.....	.....	10	41	94
	F	125	.....	.....	.....	6	30	89
20. Other diseases of the circulatory system	M	42	.....	.....	.....	1	6	35
	F	22	.....	.....	.....	1	6	15
21. Bronchitis	M	63	6	.....	1	1	17	38
	F	35	2	1	.....	2	8	22
22. Pneumonia	M	46	15	3	.....	1	13	14
	F	38	19	2	1	3	2	11
23. Other respiratory diseases	M	14	.....	.....	.....	2	4	8
	F	12	.....	.....	.....	1	5	6
24. Ulceration of the stomach or duodenum	M	14	.....	.....	.....	5	6	3
	F	3	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	1

TABLE 1 (A.)—CONTINUED.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Sex.	All ages.	AGE GROUPS.					
			0—	1—	5—	15—	45—	65—
25. Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	M	7	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
26. Appendicitis	F	8	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
27. Other digestive diseases	M	2	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....
28. Nephritis	F	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
29. Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis	M	11	1	.....	.....	.....	4	6
30. Other maternal causes	F	12	1	.....	.....	1	3	7
31. Premature birth	M	19	.....	1	.....	2	6	10
32. Congenital malformations, birth injury, infantile disease	F	22	.....	.....	.....	2	6	14
33. Suicide	F	5	.....	.....	.....	5	.....	.....
34. Road traffic accidents	M	14	14	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
35. Other violent causes	F	8	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
36. All other causes	M	19	17	2	.....	.....	.....	.....
	F	11	10	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
	M	8	.....	.....	.....	5	2	1
	F	6	.....	.....	.....	1	3	2
	M	8	.....	2	1	1	2	2
	F	4	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	2
	M	20	2	.....	.....	6	5	7
	F	10	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	8
	M	64	1	1	1	9	7	44
	F	79	4	1	.....	10	10	54

TABLE 2.—Deaths during 1947: Seasonal and Ward Distribution.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Total.	1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.	4th Qtr.	WARDS.															
						Shields.	Beacon.	St. Hilda.	Hadrian.	Holborn.	Laygate.	Victoria.	Bents.	Rekendyke.	Westoe.	Deans.	Tyne Dock.	Simonside.	West Park.	Harton.	Unknown.
All Causes (Certified (Uncertified)	1312 52	438 25	312 9	264 11	298 7	17 ...	66 2	28 1	75 8	30 ...	58 3	91 8	99 2	82 3	105 2	94 5	99 2	114 1	121 2	231 13	2 ...
1. Typhoid and para- typhoid fevers	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
2. Cerebro-spinal fever	3	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Scarlet fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Whooping cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Diphtheria	2	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...
6. Tuberculosis of respira- tory system	71	17	22	17	15	1	5	1	5	1	3	2	5	4	1	6	7	10	8	12	...
7. Other forms of tuberculosis	10	3	3	1	3	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	4	...
8. Syphilitic disease	7	2	3	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	1	2	1	...	...	...
9. Influenza	13	9	1	...	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3	2	1	3	...
10. Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
12. Acute infectious encephalitis	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13. (a) Cancer of buccal cavity and oesoph- agus (males only)	9	3	1	3	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	2	...	2	...
(b) Cancer of uterus	14	5	4	3	2	...	1	...	...	...	2	1	1	...	...	1	1	1	3	3	...

TABLE 2.—(Continued).

14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum	47	15	13	10	9		2			2	1	2	3	4	3	4	2	4	12	1
15. Cancer of breast	16	5	5	2	4		1			1		1	2	1		....	3	3	1	
16. Cancer of all other sites	119	36	26	32	25		5	1		7	3	1	8	11	4	10	10	13	27	
17. Diabetes	7		1		6								1	1	2		1	1	1	
18. Intra-cranial vascular lesions	145	52	33	32	28		6	2		5	4	3	13	9	13	13	8	16	29	
19. Heart disease	257	79	58	54	66		9	2		20	3	16	18	14	21	13	17	28	52	
20. Other diseases of the circulatory system	65	18	15	12	20		1	4		3	1	1	7	3	2	6	1	4	8	
21. Bronchitis	96	43	22	12	19		11	1		7	6	8	7	7	8	7	8	4	11	
22. Pneumonia	83	26	14	13	30		5	5		6	2	8	4	5	4	8	9	5	11	
23. Other respiratory diseases	32	14	7	8	3		3	1		4	1	1		1	1	1	2	4	5	
24. Ulceration of the stomach or duodenum	14	3	4	3	4		....	1		2	1	1				1		3	3	
25. Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	13	2	6	2	3			1		1			2	1	1		1	3	3	
26. Appendicitis	2	1		1	1								1	1		1				
27. Other digestive diseases	26	7	8	5	6		2	1		2		2	1	3	1	2	5	2	4	
28. Nephritis	39	15	7	7	10		2	2		1		1	5	3	1	3	1	3	6	
29. Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis																				
30. Other maternal causes	5		1	3	1		1						1			1	1		2	
31. Premature birth	22	8	8	4	2					1		3	5	1	2	1	5	1	2	
32. Congenital malformations, birth injury, infantile disease	36	8	8	8	6		1			2	1	2	2	3	3	3	3	1	5	
33. Suicide	14	1	8	2	3		1	1		2			1	1	2	1	2	1		
34. Road traffic accidents	12	2	3	4	3								2	1	1	1	3	2	4	
35. Other violent causes	36	11	7	6	6		2	1		1	2		3	2	2	4	2	2	6	
36. All other causes	157	75	32	36	20		7	5		6	3	4	12	13	17	8	12	11	26	1
Total	1364	463	321	275	305	17	68	29		83	30	61	99	85	107	101	115	123	244	2

TABLE 3.—Deaths during 1947 in Institutions; and Transferable Deaths.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths in Institutions in the Borough.		Deaths of South Shields Residents in Institutions outside of the Borough.	Transferable Deaths.	
	Residents.	Non-Residents.		Residents.	Non-Residents.
1. Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers .....	...	...	...	...	...
2. Cerebro-spinal fever	3	...	...	...	...
3. Scarlet fever .....	...	...	...	...	...
4. Whooping cough .....	...	...	...	...	...
5. Diphtheria	2	...	...	...	...
6. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	35	18	...	...	18
7. Other forms of tuberculosis	10	1	...	...	1
8. Syphilitic diseases	5	2	1	1	2
9. Influenza	1	...	...	...	...
10. Measles .....	...	...	...	...	...
11. Acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis	2	...	...	...	...
12. Acute infectious encephalitis .....	...	...	1	1	...
13. (a) Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (Males only)	2	1	...	...	1
(b) Cancer of uterus	5	...	...	2	...
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum	14	10	1	1	10
15. Cancer of breast	7	3	...	2	3
16. Cancer of all other sites	49	9	5	6	9
17. Diabetes	5	...	...	1	...
18. Intra-cranial vascular lesions	43	13	5	5	13
19. Heart disease	38	12	2	8	13
20. Other diseases of the circulatory system	29	7	3	3	7

TABLE 3.—Continued.—Deaths during 1947 in Institutions; and Transferable Deaths.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths in Institutions in the Borough.		Deaths of South Shields Residents in Institutions outside of the Borough.	Transferable Deaths.	
	Residents.	Non-Residents.		Residents.	Non-Residents.
21. Bronchitis	17	6	...	1	6
22. Pneumonia	45	7	2	3	8
23. Other respiratory diseases	5	3	...	...	3
24. Ulceration of the stomach or duodenum	10	2	...	...	2
25. Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	5	1	...	...	1
26. Appendicitis	2	1	...	...	1
27. Other digestive diseases	15	4	1	1	4
28. Nephritis	15	3	1	1	3
29. Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis .....	...	...	...	...	1
30. Other maternal causes	5	1	...	...	9
31. Premature birth	8	9	...	...	...
32. Congenital malformations, birth injury, infantile disease	20	3	2	2	3
33. Suicide .....	...	...	...	...	1
34. Road traffic accidents	6	...	1	2	...
35. Other violent causes	12	4	3	8	6
36. All other causes	85	22	4	5	22
TOTAL	500	142	32	53	147

TABLE 4.—POPULATION, BIRTHS AND DEATHS FOR 1928-1947

Year.	Popula- tion estimated to middle of each year.	Births.			Total deaths registered in the Borough		Transfer- able Deaths		Net Deaths belonging to the Borough.			
		Uncor- rected Num- ber.	Net				Of Non-Residents registered in the Borough	Of Residents not registered in the Borough	Under 1 year of age.		At all ages.	
			Num- ber.	Rate	Num- ber.	Rate			Num- ber.	Rate per 1,000 Net Births	Num- ber.	Rate
1928	121,800	2,500	2,468	20.3	1,766	14.5	141	74	226	92	1,699	13.9
1929	119,600	2,370	2,355	19.7	1,925	16.1	174	69	288	122	1,820	15.2
1930	116,500	2,411	2,396	20.6	1,602	13.8	133	78	221	92	1,547	13.3
1931	114,200	2,377	2,362	20.7	1,868	16.4	157	75	272	115	1,786	15.6
1932	114,000	2,168	2,168	19.0	1,632	14.3	168	63	152	70	1,527	13.4
1933	114,100	1,961	1,963	17.2	1,679	14.7	185	64	182	93	1,558	13.7
1934	112,750	2,059	2,013	17.9	1,617	14.3	180	51	168	83	1,488	13.2
1935	112,000	1,969	1,930	17.2	1,545	13.8	196	60	154	80	1,409	12.6
1936	<i>a</i> 111,350	1,924	1,878	16.9	1,607	14.4	189	49	163	87	1,467	13.2
1937	111,000	1,903	1,831	16.5	1,664	15.0	217	38	147	80	1,485	13.4
1938	110,400	2,007	1,897	17.2	1,645	14.9	172	47	124	65	1,520	13.8
1939	<i>d</i> 106,900	1,883	1,834	16.7	1,594	14.9	224	58	120	66	1,428	13.4
1940	99,550	1,843	1,714	17.2	1,676	16.8	237	91	126	75	1,530	15.4
1941	92,910	1,732	1,597	17.2	1,793	19.3	229	109	146	92	1,673	18.0
1942	89,480	1,712	1,590	17.8	1,492	16.7	223	63	126	79	1,332	14.9
1943	86,130	1,822	1,696	19.7	1,622	18.8	231	68	127	75	1,459	16.9
1944	91,040	2,184	2,058	22.6	1,436	15.8	189	59	104	51	1,306	14.3
1945	93,680	2,008	1,882	20.1	1,482	15.8	195	64	131	70	1,351	14.4
1946	100,360	2,257	2,206	22.0	1,464	14.6	168	48	145	66	1,344	13.4
1947	101,780	2,434	2,441	24.0	1,458	14.3	147	53	118	48	1,364	13.4

NOTES.—(a) The rates in Columns 5, 7, and 13 are calculated per 1,000 of the population.

(b) “Transferable Deaths” are deaths of persons who, having a fixed or usual residence in England or Wales, died in a district other than that in which they resided.

^a Modified estimate for calculation of rates, as Borough was extended on 1st April, 1936 (mid-year estimate for extended Borough, 111,800).

^d The population for the calculation of the birth rate for this year as given by the Registrar General was 110,000.

TABLE 5.—BIRTH-RATES, INFANT MORTALITY RATES, AND DEATH RATES FROM VARIOUS CAUSES, 1871-1947.

YEAR.	Estimated Population.	Birth-rate	Death-rate.	PRINCIPAL EPIDEMIC DISEASES.							Phthisis.	Other Tuberculous Diseases.	Cancer.	Bronchitis.	Pneumonia.	Influenza.	Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 births.
				Total.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	* Diphtheria.	Whooping Cough.	"Fever"	+ Diarrhoea.						
Mean 1871-1880	50,580	43.1	25.5	6.0	.86	.42	1.44	.12	.78	.79	1.59	1.91	.....	.....	.....	.....	164
Mean 1881-1890	66,520	38.8	20.5	2.3	.01	.34	.45	.10	.44	.19	.78	1.84	.....	.....	.....	.....	140
Mean 1891-1900	87,022	36.1	20.1	2.45	.00	.44	.22	.11	.46	.28	.93	1.60	1.00	2.00	1.47	.29	166
Mean 1901-1910	104,186	33.9	17.9	2.03	.02	.45	.17	.16	.47	.10	.66	1.50	.71	1.41	1.28	.25	140
Mean 1911-1920	109,843	28.9	18.1	1.47	.00	.38	.09	.09	.26	.04	.61	1.53	.59	1.72	1.67	.84	126
Mean 1921-1930	122,170	23.2	13.9	0.79	.00	.19	.03	.08	.19	.01	.29	1.33	.44	1.15	1.17	.52	98
1931	114,200	20.7	15.6	0.77	.....	.39	.....	.02	.23	.....	.13	1.24	.46	1.35	1.37	.60	115
1932	114,000	19.0	13.4	0.27	.....	.07	.....	.....	.11	.....	.10	1.46	.46	0.86	0.71	.35	70
1933	114,100	17.2	13.7	0.74	.....	.31	.01	.04	.13	.....	.25	1.39	.45	0.82	0.74	.44	93
1934	112,750	17.9	13.2	0.47	.....	.13	.03	.07	.09	.....	.15	1.28	.47	0.77	0.84	.30	83
1935	112,000	17.2	12.6	0.55	.....	.14	.04	.11	.02	.....	.24	1.06	.37	0.61	0.63	.21	80
1936+	111,350	16.9	13.2	0.43	.....	.07	.05	.07	.03	.....	.21	0.85	.23	0.73	0.70	.17	87
1937	111,900	16.5	13.4	0.43	.....	.04	.04	.17	.08	.....	.11	1.04	.24	0.82	0.74	.63	80
1938	110,400	17.2	13.8	0.79	.....	.01	.08	.55	.05	.....	.09	0.84	.25	0.81	0.65	.24	65
1939+	106,900	16.7	13.4	0.61	.....	.01	.06	.40	.04	.....	.10	0.87	.21	0.67	0.58	.23	66
1940	99,550	17.2	15.4	0.41	.....	.02	.03	.25	.05	.....	.06	1.18	.21	0.78	0.70	.37	75
Mean 1931-1940	110,625	17.7	13.7	0.55	.....	.12	.03	.17	.08	.....	.14	1.12	.34	0.82	0.77	.36	82
1941	92,910	17.2	18.0	0.59	.....	.12	.....	.27	.12	.....	.09	1.30	.27	0.71	0.98	.18	92
1942	89,480	17.8	14.9	0.39	.....	.03	.01	.19	.02	.....	.13	1.15	.31	0.60	0.56	.27	79
1943	86,130	19.7	16.9	0.44	.....	.01	.....	.21	.08	.....	.14	1.07	.24	0.89	0.93	.71	75
1944	91,040	22.6	14.3	0.25	.....	.04	.....	.09	.01	.....	.11	0.97	.17	0.76	0.55	.30	51
1945	93,680	20.1	14.4	0.27	.....	.02	.01	.07	.03	.....	.13	0.93	.20	0.59	0.45	.17	70
Mean 1941-1945	90,618	19.5	15.7	0.39	.....	.05	.00	.16	.05	.....	.12	1.08	.24	0.71	0.69	.32	72
1946	100,360	22.0	13.4	0.18	.....	.02	.01	.02	.01	.....	.12	0.86	.17	1.18	0.45	.10	66
1947	101,780	24.0	13.4	0.15	.....	.....	.....	.02	.....	.....	.13	0.70	.09	0.94	0.82	.13	48

* Diphtheria and Enteritis (under 2 years of age) since 1905.
+ Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years of age) since 1905.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE BOROUGH.

Water Supply.

Water is supplied by Sunderland and South Shields Water Company. The supply is constant, adequate and pure. Bacteriological examinations over a period of forty years have been uniformly good and it is non-plumbo solvent. It has, however, a high degree of temporary hardness (16.7 degrees) which may be deposited in hot water systems and appliances in the form of "fur" (calcium and magnesium carbonates). This and the amount of soap necessary to form a lather are of course characteristic features of such a water and the company has been taking measures over a period of years to gradually reduce these disadvantages.

The town's supply is examined weekly and the following is a typical analysis :—

<i>Chemical Analysis.</i>	<i>Parts per 100,000.</i>
Total solids	38.2
Chloride	4.50
Sodium chloride	7.43
Alkalinity	23.8
Total hardness	32.55
Temporary hardness	23.85
Permanent hardness	8.7
Nitrogen as nitrates	0.10
Nitrogen as nitrites	Nil.
Iron	Nil.
Appearance	Clear and bright.
Suspended matter	Nil.
Colour (Hazem degrees)	5

Bacteriological Examination.

Organisms per cubic centimetre visible after incubation for 48 hours at 37° C.	2
Bacillus Coli in quantities of 1, 10 and 100 cubic centimetres	Absent.

During the year one complaint of contamination was investigated when it was found that an obsolete type of lavatory basin with a submerged water inlet was being used. Contamination was thus due to a badly designed basin and was remedied when a modern appliance was fitted.

Drainage and Sewage Disposal.

The County Borough is divided into areas and drained on the combined system. There are few gradient difficulties, and each area sewer discharges directly into the river Tyne.

Closet Accommodation.

The water carriage system is in general use throughout the town, the very few exceptions being isolated buildings on the outskirts.

Public Cleansing.

Household refuse is collected weekly and trade rubbish as required. It is disposed of by tipping at Cleadon and Gypsies Green or by incineration at the Victoria Road Depot.

The only complaints received were at one short period during the winter when exceptional snow interfered with the collection of household refuse via the back streets.

Regular visits are paid to the tips by the Sanitary Inspectors and the application of tip dressing has undoubtedly again prevented fly nuisance. The Rodent Operator also pays visits for the purpose of dealing with any rat infestation.

Camp Sites.

Three camps previously occupied by the Services and taken over by squatters in the summer of 1946 are still occupied. Every convenience is provided including coal houses. During the year one Nissen hut was closed as unfit due to the metal work being beyond repair. These buildings must not be regarded as permanent dwellings and should be vacated as soon as conditions permit.

Swimming Baths.

There is one swimming bath, covered, and supplied with water from the town's main. It is in use all the year and is equipped with pressure filters and chlorination plant for continuous usage. Regular samples show that the water is chlorinated satisfactorily and so treated as to give a neutral reaction.

Cleanliness.

The arrangements for treating scabies and verminous conditions were fully set out in my Annual Report for 1946. During the year, three aged persons were referred to the Cleansing Station for cleansing.

377 persons were treated at the Scabies clinic as follows :—

Children under 5 years	85
Children of school age	166
Men	15
Women	111

During the year, 93 verminous premises were treated.

Schools.

During 1947, 41 visits were paid by Inspectors to the schools in the town.

All drinking water is direct from the Water Company's main. Premises and sanitary fittings have been maintained in a clean and satisfactory condition.

Offensive Trades.

There are nine offensive trades on the register, viz. :—

- 2 gut scrapers (at the Abattoir).
- 3 tripe boilers (two at the Abattoir).
- 3 rag and bone dealers.
- 1 blood boiler.

No nuisance has been caused by any of these trades. The Inspectors paid 79 visits during the year.

Lodging Houses.

There are no common lodging houses in South Shields, but there are 12 licensed Seamen's Lodging Houses in use for seamen. They are controlled by the provisions of the Merchant Shipping Acts, Byelaws and the South Shields Corporation Act, 1935.

The inspectors paid 125 visits and police officers 700.

Rodent Control.

During 1947 £1,900 was spent on control measures. Of this sum £1,300 is recoverable from the Government and from business premises receiving treatment.

During the year, the Rodent Operator has dealt with 336 complaints of rats and mice and made a total of 1950 visits to 76 business premises and 260 dwelling houses. In one restaurant 47 black rats (*Rattus-rattus*) were caught.

For 12 weeks 6 men from the Cleansing Department were engaged in baiting the sewers and of 2794 manholes baited 75% showed evidence of rats.

In April 1947, a detailed proposal in accordance with Circulars N.S. 12-15 was submitted to the Ministry which provided for the division of the County Borough into 15 sections for rodent survey and treatment. In May the scheme was approved and in June sixteen men were engaged as Rodent Surveyors—preference being given to local and partly disabled ex-servicemen.

The survey took approximately five months and records indicated that out of 35,000 premises 2,662 (361 business and 2,301 domestic) were infested with rats or mice.

It was found necessary to treat the riverside premises as an additional and separate section and these premises were dealt with in one huge block approximately three miles long.

In 75% of riverside infestations the rats were identified as ship rats (*Rattus-rattus*) yet only in one instance were rat guards seen to be fitted to shipping. The attention of the Port Health Authority has been drawn to this.

In twelve instances it was necessary to serve statutory notices.

<i>Treatment.</i>	<i>Number of baits laid.</i>	<i>Weight of bait.</i>	<i>Weight of poison.</i>	<i>Estimated kill.</i>
Complaints	8,000	5½ cwt.	20 lbs.	1,690
First Sewer Maintenance.	4,017	6 cwt.	24 lbs.	6,557
Second Sewer Maintenance	4,365	6½ cwt.	26 lbs.	8,545
Special Scheme Approved by Ministry of Food	37,000	16 cwt.	58 lbs.	18,327
Total for 1947	53 382	34 cwt.	128 lbs.	35,119

Cinemas.

Of the 12 cinemas, five are of modern construction; 56 visits were paid by the Inspectors and conditions were reported as satisfactory.

Rag Flock Acts, 1911-1928.

No action was deemed necessary under the Acts during the year.

Factories.

During the year 52 visits were paid to factories under the 1937 Factories Act (workplaces being dealt with under the Public Health Act, 1936). Only five defects were found, viz.: insufficient or defective sanitary conveniences and not having separate accommodation for the sexes.

Outwork.

One list was received in August, containing only one name of an outworker, engaged in the making of wearing apparel.

There was one instance of default by an employer in sending in a list of outworkers employed in the making of stuffed toys.

One instance of work in unwholesome premises in connection with the making of stuffed toys was prohibited by an order of the local authority.

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS PAID BY SANITARY INSPECTORS.

<i>Nature of Visit.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
General district inspection	5.878
Inspection of repairs to property	1.249
Interviews and appointments	1.186
Complaints investigated	1.650
Testing drains	45
Smoke observations	1
Special inspections :—	
Rent Act inspections	9
Furnished rooms	11
Seamen's lodging houses	125
Bakehouses	1
Fried fish shops	49
Ice cream shops	25
Other food premises	75
Cowsheds	5
Pig sty	2
Food inspections	211
Food sampling	164
Camp sites	31
Public Abattoir	81
Factories (M.P.)	46
Factories (N.M.P.)	6
Outworkers	41
Picture halls	56
Schools	41
Offices	1
Allotments	75
Stables	58
Rag and bone dealers	3
Refuse tips	12
Rodent and vermin investigations	268

<i>Nature of Visit.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Verminous persons	3
Tuberculosis contacts	67
Smallpox and other contacts	1
Other infectious diseases	364
Static water tanks	1
Swimming baths	4
Town Planning Scheme	55
Essential works certificates	71
Magistrates Court	1
Other inspections	218
Total Visits	12,190

1650 complaints were investigated as compared with 263 ten years ago.

SUMMARY OF NOTICES ISSUED BY SANITARY INSPECTORS.

<i>Nature of Work.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
(A) No. of Notices on Owners	1,513
No. of Houses	812
(1) Nuisances :—	
Choked or defective drain	90
Defective w.c.	442
Insanitary scullery sink	22
Rat or vermin infestation	3
Accumulation of refuse	7
Defective lavatory basin	12
(2) Insufficient sanitary accommodation (dwellings)	3
do. do. (factories) ..	4
(3) Insufficient ashbin accommodation	16
(4) Insufficient water supply	41
(5) Defective outbuildings	61
(B) On occupiers :—	
Notices	13
Nuisances :—	
Dirty house	1
Dirty yard, etc.	3
Accumulation of refuse	1
Keeping animals	1
Dirty stables	4

STRUCTURAL IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED.

<i>Nature of Work.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
Dwelling and Lodging Houses.		
Rooms and cellars closed		12
Generally improved		877
Drains.		
Provided		24
Relaid		3
Repaired		29
Cleared		88
Chambers, gullies, traps, etc., provided or renewed		26
Yards and Areas.		
Relaid		7
Repaired		35
W.c's.		
Newly provided (complete)		16
Basins, cisterns, etc., replaced or repaired		406
Dustbins.		
Provided		78
Baths and Lavatories.		
Waste pipes or traps provided		10
Wash-ups.		
Of metal, replaced by stoneware		7
Newly provided (complete)		28
Traps, waste-pipes, etc., provided or repaired		53
Water Supply.		
Renewed		52
Wash-houses.		
Rebuilt or repaired		96
Floors relaid or repaired		13
Coal-houses and other outbuildings.		
Rebuilt or repaired		124
Factories etc.		
Repairs to walls, floors, roofs, spouting etc.		4
Additional sanitary accommodation provided		2
Public Houses.		
Drains repaired		1
Total Improvements		1,991

HOUSING.

There were 31,232 inhabited dwellings in the County Borough at the end of 1947.

New Houses.

The number of new houses erected during the year was :—

Permanent brick houses	} 514
Permanent prefabricated houses	
Temporary prefabricated bungalows	39

Fair Rents Information Bureau.

This Bureau was established in May 1935. The following statement by the Borough Treasurer summarises the work done during 1947.

Complaints by tenants of overcharging	155
Enquiries by landlords	71
Enquiries concerning warrants of Distress, Notices to Quit, repairs, etc.	26
	<hr/>
	252
	<hr/>

Overcharged rents refunded—£34.

Housing Administration.

The following table summarises the work of the inspectors during 1947.

Houses inspected	2,716
No. of inspections	6,883
No. of totally unfit houses	12
No. of houses not reasonably fit	1,514
Rendered fit informally	1,221
Statutory notices served	260
Rendered fit after service of statutory notices	202

Rent Restriction Act.

Applications received	9
Applications granted	9
Applications refused	

Eradication of bed bugs.

No. of infested houses	59
Council	11
Other	48
No. of houses disinfested	59

Inspection under the Shops Acts.

On the resignation of the Shops Inspector, inspection under the Shops Acts was carried out by the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures.

The following are the details of the work of the year :—

Visits to shops	1,965
Visits to premises where the Young Persons (Employment) Act, 1938 refers.....	33
Interviews	31
Complaints	7
Infringements	171
Circulars issued	158

A firm of ice cream retailers was prosecuted for 40 offences under the Shops Acts, 1912 and the Shops (Sunday Trading Restrictions) Act, 1936. Convictions followed in each case and fines and costs amounting to £15 18s. 0d., were imposed.

Another firm of bakers and ice cream retailers were convicted of seven offences under the Shops Acts, 1912 and 1934 and the Shops (Sunday Trading Restrictions) Act, and fines and costs of £13 5s. 0d.. were inflicted.

Verbal and written cautions were given by the Inspector to other traders for minor and first infringements of the Acts.

A complete list of Acts and Orders in force in the Borough was set out in my annual report for 1946.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Registration of Milk Vendors and Premises.

Milk Supply.

The number of milk vendors on the register on 31st December, 1947, was as follows :—

	<i>Loose. Milk.</i>	<i>Bottled. Milk.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
On register 31st Dec., 1946.	49	267	316
Registered during 1947. ....	..	13	13
Removed from register during 1947.....	..	..	..
	<hr/> 49	<hr/> 280	<hr/> 329
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Three of these were registered as wholesale dealers; five are producer retailers whose premises are within the Borough and two are producer retailers from outside areas. One dealer sterilizes milk.

Milk, (Special Designations) Order, 1936.

The following licences were granted during the year :—

	<i>Estab. where produced & bottled.</i>	<i>Estab. where produced only</i>	<i>Estab. where sold.</i>	<i>Estab. where Pasteurised.</i>	<i>Supple- mentary licences.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Tuberculin tested milk .....	....	....	2	....	2	4
Accredited Milk	2	1	2	....	....	5
Pasteurised Milk .....	....	....	14	1	2	17
	<hr/> 2	<hr/> 1	<hr/> 18	<hr/> 1	<hr/> 4	<hr/> 26
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Ice Cream.

In accordance with the provision of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, the following premises were registered at the end of 1947.

	<i>For Manufacture and Sale.</i>	<i>For Sales only.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Number of premises on register 31st December, 1946.	33	71	104
No. of premises registered during 1947	1	14	15
	<hr/> 34	<hr/> 85	<hr/> 119
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Meat Inspection at the Public Abattoir.

There are no private slaughter-houses in the Borough: all slaughtering of animals for food must be carried out at the Public Abattoir.

The following table shows the number of animals slaughtered at the Public Abattoir during eight years. :—

	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Beasts	6137	4313	5306	5317	5167	5240	5361	5183
Calves	112	40	30	14	31	72	35	15
Sheep	35095	19831	28777	22369	20339	23290	25451	17454
Pigs	4572	2028	61	93	68	182	96	56
Goats.....	.....	.....	.....	47	103	54	31	69
TOTAL	45916	26212	34174	27840	25708	28838	30974	22777

Food inspected and Rejected as Unfit.

The following table shows the amount of food rejected during the year :—

AT THE ABATTOIR :—

On account of Tuberculosis :—

	Cows.	Heifers.	Bullocks.	Bulls.	Calves.	Pigs.	Total.
Whole carcasses and offal	17	10	4	.....	.....	.....	31
Parts and organs rejected	70	138	151	3	1	2	365
Total animals affected	87	148	155	3	1	2	396

Total weight of meat and offal rejected on account of Tuberculosis :—

Beef 21,217 lbs. Pork 7lbs.
Offal 6,203 lbs.

27,420 lbs. (12 tons, 4 cwts, 92 lbs.)

Total weight of meat and offal rejected at the abattoir for diseases and unwholesome conditions (other than tuberculosis) :—

Beef 40,706 lbs. + 91 lbs. Beef (Bruised).
Mutton 2,228 „
Pork

43,025 lbs. (19 tons 4 cwts. 17lbs.)

Offal 7,671 lbs. (3 tons 8 cwts. 55 lbs.)

(b) FOOD REJECTED OUTSIDE THE ABATTOIR.

The following quantities of foodstuffs were rejected on account of decomposition or unsoundness :—

Meat and meat products	10,642 lbs.
Fish	1,289 „
Fats	745 „
Fruit	1,514 „
Vegetables	33,164 „
Flour products	1,880 „
Miscellaneous (sugar, barley, yeast, etc.)	1,183 „

Total weight of foodstuffs rejected $22\frac{1}{2}$ tons.

The details of all food rejected at the abattoir are summarised in the following table :—

	Cattle ex- cluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed	4,741	442	15	17,454 + 69 Goats	56
Number inspected	4,741	442	15	17,454 + 69 Goats	56
All diseases except tuber- culosis :—					
(a) Whole carcasses con- demned	3	1	.....	17	
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned	1,258	125		309	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	26.6%	28.5%	.....	1.9%	1.8%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY :—					
Whole carcasses con- demned	14	17	.....	.....	.....
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	292	70	1	.....	2
Percentage of the num- bers inspected af- fected with tuber- culosis	6.4%	19.7%	6.7%	.....	3.6%

In addition, the following canned foodstuffs were rejected :—

Meat products	2,556 tins.
Fish	901 „
Fruit and vegetables	8,195 „
Soups.....	480 „
Milk products	5,152 „
Sweets	269 „
Miscellaneous	52 „

Total estimated weight 11 tons 17 cwt.

PACKETS, JARS AND BOTTLED FOODSTUFFS.

Flour products	1,926 pkts.
Cereals	4,906 „
Jams, etc.	1,576 jars.
Miscellaneous (baking powder, flavouring, gravy salt, etc.)	1,696 jars. 2,739 pkts. 151 bottles. 1 cask.

Estimated weight 4 tons 4 cwt. 45 lbs.

Food Premises.

The following is a summary of visits paid by the Food Inspector to the various premises under his supervision. Visits were also made by the Sanitary and Shops Inspectors.

	<i>No. of Premises at end of year.</i>	<i>No. of visits.</i>
Butchers and pork butchers shops	130	99
Wholesale meat shops	W.M.S.A.	16
Fish shops	24	16
Fried fish shops	57	3
Dairies and milk shops	329	58
Cowsheds	8	14
Ice cream shops	119	69
Bakehouses	58	11
Triperies	3	41
Gutscraping premises	2	38
Market Place (public)	1	36
Slaughterhouse (public)	1	312
Piggeries	1	4
Other visits, sampling etc.	4	239
Total		956

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Administration.

The total number of samples taken during the year was 141, of which 123 were informal and 18 formal.

The following is a summary of the samples, results of analyses and action taken :—

Milk.

Approximately 85% of the milk supplied in the County Borough is "Tuberculin Tested" or "Heat Treated".

Of 34 milk samples submitted for chemical examination only one (No. 46) was found to be not genuine (non-fatty solids—8.69% and fat—2.55%.) A formal sample taken later was reported as genuine.

Two other milks were reported as being below standard but genuine.

Heat Treated Milk.

Forty-one samples of Heat Treated Milk (30 Pasteurised and 11 Sterilised) were submitted to the Analyst for tests under the Heat Treated Milk (Prescribed Tests) Order, 1941 and Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1936-1946. Six failed the Methylene Blue test and one failed for Phosphatase. The Ministry of Food (Milk Division) and Area Milk Officer were duly informed.

Designated Milk other than Pasteurised.

Fourteen samples of "Tuberculin Tested" Milk and three "Accredited" were submitted for bacteriological examinations and five were satisfactory.

Of the "Tuberculin Tested" milks, 2 failed the Methylene Blue Test and 6 also failed the presumptive Coliform Test. One "Accredited" was decolourised in half an hour and two failed the B. Coli test.

As a result of the "Tuberculin Tested" tests, the firm concerned terminated the contract with its milk producer and arranged for another supply.

The "Accredited" producer has been requested to improve hygiene at the farm.

Six samples of milk, including two from school supplies were taken for biological examination. The result in each case was "no evidence of tubercle bacilli".

Ice Cream.

There were 34 manufacturers and 85 dealers in ice-cream, though the sale of the wrapped commodity was again negligible.

Twenty four samples were taken for bacteriological cleanliness and submitted for grading in accordance with the Ministry of Health's provisional scale. Fourteen were classed as provisionally unsatisfactory—eleven grade 4 and three in grade 3.

Other Foods.

Twenty-five samples of the following substances were taken informally and found to be satisfactory :—

Lobster paste (1), Bronchial Mixture (1), Vinegar (1), Corned Beef (1), Castor Oil (1), Gregory Powder (1), Meat Paste (1), Almond Substitute (2), Vi-cocoa (1), Barley Flavouring (1), Custard Powder (1), Gravy Salt (1), Sago (1), Sauce (1), Lemon Flavouring (1), Pepper (1), Crunchets (1), Ginger Wine Essence (1), Baking Powder (2), Meat Soup (1), Mixed Spice (1), Coffee (1), Epsom Salts (1).

Fertilizers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926.

No samples were officially submitted during the year.

Diseases of Animals Acts, 1894-1937.

No contraventions of the Acts and Orders were reported during the year.

Two notifications under the 1938 Tuberculosis Order were received and the cows concerned were duly slaughtered and the diagnoses confirmed. Proper disinfection of the premises was carried out.



NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

The following table shows the number of cases of acute infectious diseases notified during each of the past eleven years :—

Disease.	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Scarlet fever	452	799	387	205	96	94	134	202	296	164	109
Diphtheria	128	598	493	187	182	201	234	178	125	77	60
Enteric fever .....	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....
Dysentery	1	7	2	1	.....	7	6	2	5	3	18
Malaria	1	5	5	5	2	3	8	13	6	13	4
Cerebro-spinal fever	3	1	2	37	25	20	8	9	2	4	8
Polio-myelitis	1	1	.....	5	1	.....	1	1	.....	2	18
Polio-encephalitis .....	.....	3	1	.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1
Encephalitis lethargica	1	.....	1	1	1	.....	2	2	.....	1	.....
Pneumonia : Primary	337	234	203	157	205	142	355	236	159	223	187
Pneumonia: Influenzal	50	28	27	32	16	11	51	13	10	23	13
Puerperal fever	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Puerperal pyrexia	8	13	28	20	15	34	28	35	23	23	21
Erysipelas	71	69	47	49	30	34	39	28	34	40	27
Ophthalmia neonatorum	14	12	15	17	20	29	13	32	28	18	17
Pemphigus neonatorum	9	4	14	4	6	8	12	8	6	6	9
Whooping cough .....	.....	.....	82	399	1034	189	656	212	370	343	337
Measles .....	.....	.....	37	1021	2521	1284	1149	943	991	1410	394
Food poisoning .....	.....	.....	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12	3

The number of cases in non-civilians during 1947, was :—
Pneumonia, 1.

The corrected numbers after re-diagnosis were :—

Scarlet fever	93
Diphtheria	15
Erysipelas	26
Polio-myelitis	14
Food-poisoning	2
Others	as notified.

Diphtheria caused two deaths. In one case the child had not been immunised ; the other had been immunised but she was an epileptic and had a history of mental deficiency.

There were no deaths from scarlet fever, measles or whooping cough.

In common with other parts of the country, there was an increase in the number of cases of acute anterior poliomyelitis. 18 cases were notified, but four of these proved to be other conditions. Of

the 14 true cases, two died : women aged 32 and 50. No case was discovered in the pre-paralytic stage. In five of the cases the paralysis completely disappeared ; the other seven had varying degrees of paralysis and were transferred to the care of the Orthopaedic Surgeon at the Ingham Infirmary.

Eighteen cases of dysentery were notified ; they were all of the bacillary type, the majority due to the Sonne bacillus. There were no deaths.

With regard to the cases of food poisoning, as frequently happens in such cases no cause could be found on pathological examination.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

During the year, 1,609 children were immunised by the medical staff of the Health Department. The following table shows the ages of those immunised :—

<i>Age</i> <i>(in years).</i>	<i>No.</i> <i>Immunised.</i>
0— 1	66
1— 2	1,229
2— 3	74
3— 4	50
4— 5	31
5— 6	86
6— 7	21
7— 8	8
8— 9	14
9—10	10
10—11	4
11—12	6
12—13	4
13—14	4
14—15	1
15—16	1

It will be seen from the table that 1,450 of the children immunised during the year were aged under 5 years, and 1,295 of them under 2 years.

In addition, 1,468 children received a third “ boosting ” injection to reinforce their immunity during the early school years, when the risk of infection is greatest.

Approximately 55% of South Shields children aged under 5 years have been immunised and 81% of children of school age.

To these figures must be added an unknown number of children immunised by private practitioners.

Smallpox.

No case of smallpox was notified during the year.

Vaccination.

Of the 2,262 births registered in 1946, 881 infants (38.9 per cent), were successfully vaccinated by the 31st January, 1947. In 1,166 cases (51.6 per cent) there was conscientious objection to vaccination on the parts of the parents ; in 3 cases vaccination was unsuccessful owing to insusceptibility ; 130 children died un-vaccinated ; in 12 cases vaccination was postponed on medical grounds. 34 children removed to other districts ; 27 cases could not be traced and 9 remained unaccounted for in the Vaccination Record Book.

ISOLATION HOSPITALS.

The following table shows the number of cases admitted to the infectious diseases hospitals in the years 1941-1947.

Disease.	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Scarlet fever	32	38	63	74	129	76	56
Diphtheria	175	188	202	165	115	74	59
Suspected scarlet fever ..		2	7	8			
Suspected smallpox							1
Suspected diphtheria	20	46	24	5	3	1	
Enteric fever							
Mumps					1		
German measles	2						
Measles	6	2				20	1
Scabies	1						
Suspected cerebro-spinal fever	3						
Cerebro spinal fever		3					
Acute poliomyelitis							13
Acute polio-encephalitis ..							1
Erysipelas							1
*TOTALS	239	279	296	252	248	171	132

*Included in these totals are cases admitted to neighbouring infectious diseases hospitals (during pressure on Deans Hospital accommodation) as follows :—

Boldon Hospital	6 cases (1943).
" " " " " " "	3 cases (1946).
Jarrow Hospital	1 case (1945).
" " " " " " "	22 cases (1946).

In 1947 five cases were admitted from Boldon U.D. to the Deans Hospital.

The average daily number of cases under treatment in the infectious disease hospitals was :—

Disease.	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Scarlet fever.....	2.3	3.2	5.0	5.8	7.2	4.8	3.0
Diphtheria	10.0	8.3	8.6	7.4	4.2	3.6	2.4
Suspected scarlet fever .....	.....	0.01	0.02	0.1	.....	.....	.....
Suspected diphtheria	0.2	1.0	0.3	0.1	0.01	.....	.....
Other cases	0.4	0.1	.....	.....	0.01	0.9	0.8

The number of deaths in hospitals was as under :—

Disease.	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Scarlet fever.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	1	.....
Diphtheria	24	16	17	7	7	.....	2
Other diseases .....	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	1	2

Of 56 cases admitted as scarlet fever, 17 were found to be suffering from other conditions (measles, german measles, etc.). Of 59 cases admitted as diphtheria, 35 were re-diagnosed as other conditions (tonsillitis, etc.) and 12 were found to be carriers. Four of the 14 cases admitted as acute poliomyelitis or polioencephalitis were re-diagnosed as other conditions, as was the case admitted as erysipelas.

Puerperal Fever, Puerperal Pyrexia, Ophthalmia Neonatorum and Pemphigus Neonatorum.

These diseases are discussed in the Maternity and Child Welfare section of the report in so far as special comment is called for.

SOUTH SHIELDS GENERAL HOSPITAL.

The following is a summary of the work of the hospital during 1947, extracted from the Secretary's report :—

Number of beds in general wards	440
Number of beds in Maternity Block	36
	<hr/>
	476
Cots in Maternity Block.....	42
Average number of beds occupied	395
Highest number 14/5/47.	439
Lowest Number 1/1/47.	336
Admissions :— County Borough Cases	4,239
Non-County Borough cases	682
E.M.S.	23
	<hr/>
TOTAL	4,944
	<hr/> <hr/>
Discharges :— County Borough cases	3,821
Non-County Borough cases	566
E.M.S.	27
	<hr/>
TOTAL	4,414
	<hr/> <hr/>
Deaths :— County Borough cases	388
Non-County Borough cases	120
E.M.S.	2
	<hr/>
TOTAL	510
	<hr/> <hr/>

MATERNITY HOSPITAL.

Admissions :—	County Borough Cases	924
	Non-County Borough cases	77
Discharges :—	County Borough Cases	1,733
	Non-County Borough cases	129
Deaths :—	Mothers	7
	Infants	30

Live births	863
Still births	29
Women treated in pre-natal beds.	170
No. of cases delivered (doctors 81, midwives 782.)	863

OUTPATIENTS.

	<i>No. of patients.</i>	<i>Attendances.</i>
Ear, nose and throat	199	1,503
Gynaecological	414	553
Dental	160	247
X-Ray	1,756	1,990
Physiotherapy and massage	219	5,051
Others	1,213	7,260
Surgical Operations :— In theatre		1,459
In wards		1,559
In Maternity Hospital—Major		47
Minor		275
Pre-natal clinic :— No. of patients		966
No. of attendances		6,781
Post-natal clinic :— No. of patients		652
No. of attendances		696

TRAINING SCHOOL FOR NURSES :—

No. of student nurses who began training in 1947.	52
No. who passed Part I Preliminary Examination	15
No. who passed Parts I and II Preliminary Examination	20
No. in Preliminary Training School at end of year	14
No. who passed final examination in 1947	15
No. of students in training at P.T.S. and General Hospital at end of year	82

TRAINING SCHOOL FOR PUPIL MIDWIVES (PART I):—

No. of pupil midwives who began training in 1947	38
No. who passed Central Midwives Board examination Part I	18
No. in training at end of year	21

Clinical and Public Health Laboratory :—

The following is a detailed classification of the specimens examined in 1947 :—

<i>Type of Specimen.</i>	<i>General Hospital.</i>	<i>Ingham Infirmary.</i>	<i>Health Dept.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Throat swabs	278	7	605	890
Pus swabs	418	16	8	442
Urines	1,036	69	9	1,114
Sputa	1,295	13	1,226	2,534
Pus	77	19	3	99
Pleural fluids	49	1	11	61
Cerebro spinal fluids	148	13		161
Fractional test meal	154	2		156
Faeces	342	9	13	364
Blood (Counts etc.)	1,030	7	29	1,066
Blood, biochemical test	313	298	7	618
Blood cultures	33			33
Blood agglutination tests	50	7	1	58
Urea clearance	50			50
Urea tolerance	6			6
Specimen for T.B. culture	32		2	34
Biopsies	187	221		408
Miscellaneous	35	3	19	57
TOTALS	5,533	685	1,933	8,151

No. of Post Mortem Examinations performed :— 88

The following is the report of the Medical Superintendent, Dr. N. Strang, for the year 1947.

"The year 1947 has seen many changes. and, I am pleased to report considerable progress in the hospital services.

The Radiology service has been considerably improved by the appointment of a Visiting Radiologist.

The Ear, Throat and Nose Department has become established.

The appointment of a full time Specialist Physician has filled a much needed requirement.

The appointment of a full-time Anaesthetist has proved another asset.

The Pathology Department, in its infancy in January 1947, has now become an up-to-date department.

Accommodation has been adapted as an Out-patient Department. This has proved a great asset to the examination and treatment of out-patients.

During the year, the Hospital lost the services of several good and faithful servants :—

Mr. J. Collingwood Stewart.	Visiting Surgeon.
Dr. W. H. Dickinson.	Visiting Physician.
The late Mr. J. Sutherland Oliver.	Visiting Dentist.
Dr. J. Jackson.	Visiting Anaesthetist.
Mr. T. H. Cheetham.	Pharmacist.

We regret losing the services of these gentlemen, but I am pleased to be able to state that their successors have filled their positions with complete satisfaction.

The Hospital, in my opinion, has supplied a good service to the residents of South Shields County Borough, and parts of the County of Durham. It has also been used extensively by the Merchant Navy for treatment of members of crews of ships in the River Tyne. During the year, it ceased to function as an E.M.S. hospital but still takes in emergency service cases when necessary.

The work and progress has been handicapped by several factors—

- (1) The lack of adequate accommodation. The total number of beds is insufficient to meet requirements. Some parts of the hospital do not conform to the ideal conditions required for their particular function, especially the Children's Ward, the Physiotherapy Department, and the Hospital Kitchen. Efforts to improve these have been unsuccessful on account of present day restrictions in building and material.
- (2) Difficulty and delay in obtaining equipment.
- (3) The great shortage of Nursing Staff—this is, of course, a universal problem. I should point out, however, that the position has improved during the past year.
- (4) The great accumulation of chronic sick cases in the hospital. This, of course, is unavoidable, but points out the urgent need for increased and better accommodation for the care of the chronic sick here, and in other parts of the country.

NURSING STAFF.

The Matron, Miss A. Rouse, celebrated her twenty-first year in the service of South Shields County Borough. She received well deserved congratulations and tokens of good wishes from the staff and others.

The Preliminary Training School for Nurses was started, first in the hospital, and has since been transferred to its own premises at "Westoe Hall", South Shields. "Westoe Hall" was officially opened by the Home Secretary, the Rt. Hon. J. Chuter Ede, M.P., for South Shields, on the 29th November, 1947.

The shortage of nursing staff is still a serious handicap, but, as stated before, the position has improved in the past year. It is hoped that efforts now being made will still further improve the position.

The general health of the nursing staff has, on the whole, been satisfactory.

The results of the General Nursing Council examinations for nurses have been excellent. This is also the case with results of the Pupil Midwives who are training at this Hospital for the Part I C.M.B. examination.

The Nurses' Home is inadequate for the nurses required to staff the Hospital. The Ministry of Health has granted permission for an extension, but this will necessarily be long delayed before it is carried into effect.

Recommendations have also been made for a recreation hut for the resident nursing staff, and a canteen for the "living-out" staff, but these too, are not possible at present.

MATERNITY DEPARTMENT.

This department has worked to capacity during the year ; in fact it has at times been overcrowded. We regret that admissions have to be limited, and that women can only be admitted on account of medical abnormalities or unsuitable conditions for home confinements. Naturally this has caused dissatisfaction among some people but we have tried to be fair and restricted the beds to the most needy cases.

In the Ante-Natal Clinic, we have instituted an appointment system to minimise the waiting time for the women attending the clinic.

X-RAY DEPARTMENT.

This department has been equipped with a rotating anode tube and a new processing unit. Also, the dark room has been extended. The X-ray service is greatly improved, and with some additional equipment we hope to have a first class X-ray Department.

PHYSIOTHERAPY DEPARTMENT.

This department also has been improved, chiefly by the acquisition of a Short-wave Therapy unit. The work is greatly hampered by lack of accommodation, but nevertheless, the department is doing much good work.

LABORATORY.

The Laboratory has proved a great asset to the efficiency of the work of the hospital in general.

The general and specialised work of the hospital, I feel sure, has developed and improved considerably in the past year. I am indebted for this to the medical, nursing and secretarial staff. A marked feature has been the great co-operation between the secretary and his staff with the medical and nursing staff. I would like to express my thanks also to the Chairman and Members of the Health and Hospital Sub-Committees for their keen interest and untiring efforts in the hospital affairs.

To conclude, in submitting this report I trust and feel that the South Shields General Hospital has provided a satisfactory hospital service for those for whom it caters."

CANCER.

During 1947 there were 205 deaths from cancer as compared with 184 in 1946 and 196 in 1945. 107 of the deaths occurred among males and 98 among females. There is again an increase in the deaths from cancer of the respiratory organs. There were 28 deaths from cancer of the lungs. The cancer death rate was 2.01 per 1,000 population as compared with 1.85 for England and Wales. Cancer accounted for 15.0 per cent of the total deaths in the Borough. 77 of the deaths occurred in hospitals.

The distribution of the diseases in the deaths in South Shields during 1947 is shown in the following table :—

	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Lip .....	..	..	..
Tongue	4	..	4
Other buccal cavity	2	2	4
Oesophagus	3	2	5
Stomach and duodenum	28	19	47
Intestines other than stomach or duodenum.....	7	15	22
Rectum	14	5	19
Liver	5	8	13
Pancreas	2	3	5
Peritoneum	2	2	4
Larynx and trachea	2	..	2
Lung and pleura	26	2	28
Other respiratory organs .....	..	..	..
Uterus including cervix .....	..	14	14
Other female genital organs .....	..	7	7
Breast .....	..	16	16
Male genital organs	4	..	4
Urinary organs	5	2	7
Skin .....	..	..	..
Brain and nervous system .....	..	..	..
Other organs	3	1	4
	<u>107</u>	<u>98</u>	<u>205</u>

Cancer Act, 1939.

The North of England Cancer Organisation was described in my Annual Report for 1945, and while increasing use is being made of the Organisation by South Shields people, there is a pressing need for the establishment of a clinic in South Shields. There is no doubt that if a local clinic were established, patients would be more ready to attend instead of having to travel to Newcastle. This arrangement would tend to earlier diagnosis and to earlier and possibly more effective treatment.

The policy of the Organisation is to set up diagnostic centres in several areas of which South Shields is one, but on account of the difficulty of obtaining trained and experienced staff it has not been possible yet to set up a centre here.

Forty-two cases of cancer in South Shields patients were treated at the Cancer Unit of Shotley Bridge Emergency Hospital during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS.

There were no changes in the staff of the Tuberculosis Clinic during the year.

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, nor under the Public Health Act, 1936 (Sec. 172).

Special Housing Scheme.

Fifty-three houses allocated to tuberculous families were continuously occupied during the year. Most of the tenants are now paying full rent, but in some cases the rent is subsidised by the Health Committee. Many other tuberculous patients qualified for houses under the Council's "points" scheme for the allocation of new houses.

Incidence of Tuberculosis.

No. of South Shields residents on the tuberculosis notification register on 1st January, 1947	1,183
Cases notified during 1947	219
Non-notified fatal cases	6
Notified posthumously	4
Cases re-admitted to register (returned from other districts)	13
	<hr/>
	1,425
	<hr/>

Cases removed from register :—

Deaths from tuberculosis or other disease	87
Left the town	27
Two years untraced .....	..
Three years free (non-pulmonary)	69
Five years free (pulmonary)	61
Wrong diagnosis or notification withdrawn	1
	<hr/>
	245
	<hr/>

Number of cases on register at end of 1947	1,180
	<hr/>
	<i>Males. Females. Total.</i>
Pulmonary	542 356 898
Non-Pulmonary	130 152 282
	<hr/>
	672 508 1,180
	<hr/>

There were three fewer cases on the register on the 31st December than on the 1st January, 1947.

Of the 219 cases notified there were :—

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Pulmonary	98	67	165
Non-Pulmonary	28	26	54

The cases notified during the year, include 22 ex-service patients and 11 merchant navy cases.

During the past seven years the number of cases notified among service personnel, members of the Merchant Navy and evacuees to South Shields from other areas were :—

	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Service Men	14	12	14	27	32	28	21
Service Women	1	5	4	4	5	2	1
Seamen	14	25	19	16	17	8	11
Evacuees	1	....	....	9	4	....	....

The following table shows the number of “ new cases ” (including the 10 un-notified) classified according to age.

AGE GROUP.	Pulmonary.		Non Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	1	....	1	....
1—5 years	9	6	8	7
5—10 years	7	6	4	6
10—15 years	2	5	4	1
15—20 years	9	16	3	4
20—25 years	13	13	5	1
25—35 years	28	13	..	3
35—45 years	5	5	2	3
45—55 years	15	5	....	2
55—65 years	13	....	....	....
Over 65 years	2	1	1	....
TOTAL	104	70	28	27

These figures include 3 Arabs ; 2 males and 1 female.

The total number of cases of tuberculosis notified or ascertained during the last 10 years is as follows :—

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
NOTIFIED :—										
Pulmonary	148	146	205	194	176	190	210	177	222	165
Non-Pulmonary.....	91	83	77	78	95	87	82	75	54	54
NOT NOTIFIEDED :—										
Pulmonary	7	9	11	10	9	7	9	7	8	9
Non-Pulmonary.....	10	3	4	7	5	5	2	7	4	1
Total	256	241	297	289	285	289	303	266	288	229
Attack-rate	2.32	2.25	2.98	3.13	3.19	3.35	3.33	2.84	2.86	2.25
Cases per 100 deaths	211	209	215	198	218	256	291	251	280	283

Mortality.

Tuberculosis caused 81 deaths during 1947, 71 pulmonary and 10 non-pulmonary. This represents a death rate of 0.80 per 1000 of the population, compared with 1.02 for 1946. It is the lowest death rate for tuberculosis recorded in the Borough.

The death rate in South Shields from tuberculosis during the past ten years is as follows :—

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Pulmonary	0.84	0.87	1.17	1.30	1.15	1.07	0.97	0.93	0.83	0.70
Non-Pulmonary.....	.25	.21	.21	.27	.31	.24	.17	.20	.17	0.10

TUBERCULOSIS MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCES.

The following statement gives particulars of the Allowances granted to tuberculosis patients during the year ended 31st December, 1947, under the Ministry of Health Memorandum 266/T

1. MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCES.

New applications granted	73
Brought forward from 1945	65

2. DISCRETIONARY ALLOWANCES.

(a) Patients included in item 1	8
(b) Other patients	—

3. SPECIAL PAYMENTS.

Travelling expenses—Para. 45(1).

(a) Patients included in item 1	74
(b) Other patients	9

Domestic Help—Para. 45(2).

(a) Patients included in item 1	—
(b) Other patients :	3

Pocket Money—Para. 45(3).

(a) Patients included in item 1	—
(b) Other patients	16

Total amount granted—£5,175 4s. 1d.

TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS.**Residential Institutional Treatment.**

The following table shows the number of patients admitted to various residential institutions during 1945, 1946 and 1947.

	1945	1946	1947
Cleadon Park Sanatorium	69	65	73
Stanhope Sanatorium	3	8	5
Poole Sanatorium	78	82	83
Other sanatoria	15	3	8
Ingham Infirmary	121	111	93
General Hospital	175	197	169

The total number of individual patients admitted to these institutions during 1947 was 324.

The average number of beds occupied daily during 1947, by tuberculous patients was 157, in all these institutions, as under :—

	<i>Men.</i>	<i>Women.</i>	<i>Children.</i>
Pulmonary	63	43	27
Non-Pulmonary	3	6	15

including an average of 14 ex-service pensioners (12 men and 2 women). During 1947 there was no name on the waiting list.

Pneumothorax Treatment (at the Clinic and Cleadon Park Sanatorium).

	1945	1946	1947
No. of patients treated	109	109	115
No. of refills	1,968	1,672	2,147
New inductions	29	24	39

SURGICAL TREATMENT AT POOLE SANATORIUM. (South Shields Patients).

Artificial pneumothorax	13
Division of adhesions	32
Phrenic operations	12
Bronchoscopies	6
Extra-pleural pneumothoraces	—
Thoracolysis and thoracoplasty	9

TREATMENT AT THE MUNICIPAL CHEST CLINIC.

	1945	1946	1947
Cases seen by the Clinical Medical Officer	8,530	8,605	8,325
No. of new examinations	975	1,275	1,234
No. of contacts examined	415	300	647
No. of visits by the Health Visitors	3,940	4,190	3,883
Percentage of contacts examined which proved to be tuberculous	5.5%	9%	5.5%
X-Ray examinations—Screens	4,977	4,373	5,705†
X-Ray films	924	909	950*
Tomograms (patients)	60	44	50*
Tuberculin Tests	131	233	269
Blood sedimentation rate	720	636	1,279
Sputum tests	1,270	1,777	1,396*

* At General Hospital. † Including 24 at General Hospital.

Ultra Violet Ray.

New cases referred	23
Total attendances	223

Dental Treatment.

Twenty patients received dental treatment during the year, at the Municipal Clinic or Cleadon Park Sanatorium.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

There were no changes during 1947 in the personnel of the Venereal Diseases Clinic which consists of one medical officer, two nurses and two male attendants.

There was a decrease in the number of cases of venereal disease as compared with the year 1946. Since 1943 there has been a steady decline in syphilis cases but the total number of cases treated during 1947 was only slightly less than the average for the years preceding the war. The number of patients who sought advice on non-venereal conditions also showed a decline but was much above the average for the pre-war years.

The following table shows in detail the cases dealt with at the South Shields Clinic for the first time during each of the past ten years.

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Syphilis	153	149	135	166	237	255	205	185	157	153
Soft Chancre	28	16	17	22	18	14	4	5	17	21
Gonorrhoea	290	203	245	279	234	266	237	269	298	259
Total venereal cases	471	368	397	467	489	535	446	459	472	433
Non-venereal cases	345	301	280	379	344	446	446	401	525	484
Grand Total*	816	669	677	846	833	981	892	860	997	917

*Including the undermentioned numbers of Service patients :—

1939	—	1940	3	1941	39
1942	60	1943	56	1944	31
1945	54	1946	20	1947	no record.

The cases dealt with for the first time include the following numbers of patients who were known to have had treatment for the same infection at other centres, in Service Hospitals or by general practitioners approved by the Ministry of Health under Circular 2226 :—

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Syphilis	62	55	53	62	102	98	66	83	76	72
Soft Chancre	6	3	1	1	2	2	.....	1	2	3
Gonorrhoea	27	31	24	32	23	15	7	31	71	33
Total venereal cases	95	89	78	95	127	115	73	115	149	108
Non-venereal or undiagnosed	6	18	22	12	15	13	.....	1	8	5
Grand Total	101	107	100	107	142	128	73	116	157	113

The following table shows the attendances at the South Shields clinic during the past 10 years.

Year.	Residents.	Non-residents.	Total.	Male.	Female.
1938	21,035	3,480	24,515	17,535	6,980
1939	14,995	2,130	17,125	11,102	6,023
1940	11,475	2,341	13,816	8,213	5,603
1941	9,559	2,695	12,254	7,930	4,324
1942	10,507	2,007	12,514	7,824	4,690
1943	13,674	2,687	16,361	9,192	7,169
1944	14,674	2,878	17,552	9,021	8,531
1945	13,291	1,926	15,217	7,542	7,675
1946	12,240	1,915	14,155	6,804	7,351
1947	9,065	2,146	11,211	5,725	5,486

Total cases treated at the South Shields clinic during 1947, including cases who had continued treatment from 1946 :—

	M.	F.	Total.
Syphilis	280	209	489
Soft chancre	26	.....	26
Gonorrhoea	270	96	366
Non-venereal diseases	476	66	542

Disposal of Cases.

	Syphilis.		Soft Chancre.		Gonorrhoea.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Ceased attendance :						
(a) Before completion of treatment	20	30	.....	.....	6	10
(b) After completion of treatment, but before final tests of cure	3	.....	.....	.....	1	8
Transferred to other centres or to private practitioners	79	10	15	.....	34	5
Discharged after completion of treatment and final tests of cure	29	27	6	.....	193	42
Died .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Under treatment on 31st Dec., 1947	149	142	4	.....	36	31

South Shields Cases treated at other centres.

	<i>S.</i>	<i>S.C.</i>	<i>G.</i>	<i>N.V.D.</i>	<i>Total Cases.</i>	<i>Attendances.</i>
Grimsby			1		1	3
Hull	1		2	6	9	20
Newcastle	7		18	33	58	518
Sunderland	2		2	6	10	73
Tynemouth	6		7	4	17	313
Total	16		30	49	95	927

Arsenical Compounds and Penicillin.

4,565 doses of approved arsenical compounds were administered to patients attending the South Shields Clinic. 277 patients were treated with Penicillin (Syphilis 17, Gonorrhoea 259, others 1).

62 doses of arsenical compounds were issued to doctors and to the General Hospital for the treatment of their cases.

Pathological Examinations.

1,566 specimens of pathological material were sent from the South Shields Clinic for examination at approved laboratories, and 734 microscopical examinations were carried out at the Municipal Clinic.

Regulation 33B.

This regulation was suspended at the end of 1947. During that year forms were received in respect of 18 contacts—17 women and one man. No second forms were received. Of those notified the man and seven women were found and treated.

In addition, 22 contacts were persuaded by the V.D.M.O., to attend for examination. Of these, 14 proved to be cases of venereal disease and were treated.

Contact Tracing.

The following is the report of Miss D. M. Peeps, Assistant Almoner at the Joint Committee's Clinic, Newcastle. The report includes cases from the Newcastle Clinic who were resident in South Shields.

FEMALE CONTACTS NAMED—17.

The information given about 6 of these women was very vague. Ten contacts were identified by the contact-tracer, and 1 was

persuaded to attend by her consort. Six were not identified. Of the 11 who were identified, 8 attended at the South Shields clinic or at the Joint Committee's clinic. Of these, 5 were found to have venereal disease; 2 were not infected and 1 failed to complete tests. Two contacts were transferred out of the area and one refused to attend.

MALE CONTACTS NAMED—4.

They were all identified. One had already attended the South Shields clinic, 2 refused to attend and 1 was committed to prison before he could attend.

REGULATION 33B.

Of the female contacts, 13 were named on Forms I. Ten of these women were found; 7 attended, 1 refused to attend and 2 were transferred out of the area. Of the 7 who attended, 4 were found to have venereal disease, 2 were not infected and 1 failed to complete tests.

One male contact was named on a Form I. He was identified by the contact-tracer and was found to be in prison, where he was tested and found to be non-venereal.

To gain these results, 35 efforts were made by the contact-tracers, including 11 ineffective visits, 12 visits of enquiry about contacts, and 12 successful interviews with contacts.

The contact-tracers paid 28 visits to defaulters from South Shields clinic, and 7 visits to defaulters from the Joint Committee's clinic who were domiciled in South Shields.

I am indebted to Miss Peeps and her staff for the very valuable assistance they have given during the year.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Notification of Births.

2,406 live births and 55 still births were notified or reported during 1947, as follows :—

	<i>Live births.</i>	<i>Still births.</i>
By midwives	2,394	55
By doctors	2	
By local Registrars	10	

This total includes 56 live and 10 still births in the General Hospital Maternity Unit, and one live birth in the Ingham Infirmary, born to mothers who were not residents of the Borough. The total number of births in the General Hospital during the year was 862 live and 31 still births.

	<i>Live.</i>	<i>Still.</i>
Residents of the Borough	806	21
Non-Residents	56	10

53 babies were born to South Shields mothers in hospitals and nursing homes elsewhere than in South Shields, and there were 4 still-births.

The birth rate for 1947 was 24.0 per 1000 of the population.

Infant Mortality.

There were 118 deaths among infants under one year of age (65 boys and 53 girls); an infantile mortality rate of 48 per 1000 births. The neo-natal infant mortality was 20 per 1000 births.

Deaths among illegitimate children numbered 5 out of 99 births, compared with 113 deaths among 2,342 legitimate children.

The principal causes of deaths in infants were :—

Prematurity	22
Congenital defects	8
Atelectasis, etc.	6
Injury at birth.....	6
Atrophy, marasmus	5
Bronchitis	8
Pneumonia	35
Enteritis	13

Maternal Mortality.

There were five deaths among mothers in South Shields as a result of pregnancy during the year. The maternal death rate was 2.05 per 1000 births as compared with a mortality of 0.91 in 1946. All the deaths occurred in the General Hospital.

The causes of deaths were as follows :—

Toxaemia of pregnancy.

Placenta praevia.

Retained placenta (2).

Obstructed labour, contracted pelvis, severe rickets.

In addition one mother died in the hospital from infective jaundice and abortion and one at home from thyrotoxicosis, myocarditis with pregnancy.

Midwifery.

During 1947, 40 midwives notified their intention to practice; 18 were on the staff of the General Hospital and 22 in domiciliary practice. At the end of the year 16 were in hospital and 21 on the district. All domiciliary midwives are in the Municipal service. There are none in private practice.

1,589 patients were attended in their own homes. Of these 497 were patients who had engaged the services of a doctor as well as a midwife. In 516 of the midwifery cases medical aid was summoned by the midwives under Section 14 of the Midwives Act, 1918.

The following table gives a summary of the work of the domiciliary municipal midwives during 1947 :—

Number of cases attended	Midwifery	1,092
	Maternity	450
	Other cases.....	47

Cases attended on discharge from hospital before the 14th day, 26

No. of morning visits	21,924
No. of evening visits	5,361
No. of pre-natal visits	10,902
No. of post-natal visits	1,063

The Supervisor of Midwives made 423 visits to patients' homes in connection with applications for admission to the Maternity Hospital.

There were notified to the Central Midwives Board ten temporary suspensions and nine changes of addresses or names.

Notifications from Midwives.

The following notifications were received at the Health Department from domiciliary midwives :—

Sending for medical aid	545 (516 cases, 557 causes).
Intention of practice	40
Artificial feeding	62
Deaths (all were infants) ..	23
Still births	11
Source of infection	18
Laying out	10

A slight increase in the number of still-births notifications during the year was due to an alteration in the Board's rules.

The principal reasons for calling in medical aid were :—

(1) **MOTHERS :—**

Malpresentations, delayed, prolonged and obstructed labour	117
Abortion or threatened	43
Haemorrhage	25
Perineal rupture	200
Increased temperature, albuminuria, etc.	37
Other causes.....	32

(2) **BABIES :—**

Feebleness	30
Discharging eyes	37
Deformities and injury	11
Rashes, etc.	11
Other causes	14

Gas Analgesia.

By the end of 1947, 13 domiciliary midwives had become qualified to administer gas and air analgesia. During the year analgesia was administered to 65 patients in their own homes.

Part II Training School for Midwives.

A Training School for Part II of the Certificate of the Central Midwives Board was opened in November. There is accommodation for 14 pupil Midwives.

Besides lectures and demonstrations in the School, the pupils accompany the Municipal midwives to their cases, where they gain experience in the conduct of cases in their homes and in gas and air analgesia.

The school is recognised as a Training School by the Ministry of Health and the Central Midwives Board.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

There were 21 notifications of puerperal pyrexia during the year ; 13 of the cases occurred in hospital. Of the eight cases which occurred in the patients' home, five were nursed by the nurses of the South Shields and District Nursing Association. There were no deaths.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Seventeen cases were notified, four from hospital and thirteen from the homes of the patients ; one of the latter was subsequently sent to hospital. Six of the remainder were nursed by the nurses of the South Shields and District Nursing Association. There was no impairment of vision in any of the cases.

Pemphigus Neonatorum.

Nine cases were notified ; four from hospital and five from homes. Four cases were referred to the Nursing Association.

Child Life Protection.

Only two children remained on the register at the end of the year. One child had reached the age of nine years and became no longer subject to the Act, one was legally adopted, one was sent to Harton Institution nursery on the death of the foster mother, and in another case the foster parent was found to be unsuitable and the child was returned to its mother who has since left the town.

Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act.

Registered adoption societies notified the prospective adoption of 22 children and one notification was received from another local authority. No notifications were received under the Act from third persons. Of these children, 12 were legally adopted during the year, and one died before adoption proceedings were complete. Five removed to other towns and their removal was notified to the Welfare Authorities and one was reclaimed by its mother. The remaining eleven were under supervision by the Health Visitors at the end of the year.

Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics.

Pre-natal Clinics.

The following is a summary of the work done at the pre-natal clinic in 1947 :—

No. of cases on register at beginning of 1947	360
No. registered during 1947 :— Expectant mothers	815
Non-pregnant	58
No. of first visits	873
No. of subsequent visits, including 1946 cases	3,594
No. on register at end of the year.	362
No. of clinic sessions	251

Of the births to mothers who attended the clinics :—

Midwives cases	normal	459
“ “	with medical assistance	51
Doctors cases	normal	55
“ “	instrumental	40

Hospital cases	normal	117
"	Instrumental	13
"	Caesarean section	5
Others		18

Among the births there were 15 stillbirths, 29 premature births, and 30 removed to other areas.

Of the births 9 babies died on the day of birth, five from prematurity, two from congenital deformities, one from cerebral haemorrhage and one from convulsions. Two babies died from prematurity and one from convulsions before they were a week old.

Routine Wassermann blood tests were carried out in 746 cases. There were eight positive reactions and the patients were referred for appropriate treatment. Tests for the R.H. Factor were carried out on 417 specimens of blood, 104 of these proved negative and the patients were given the necessary information together with their blood group. 87 patients were referred to the Chest Clinic and other Municipal Clinics for examination.

Of the expectant mothers who attended the clinic the following defects were found and referred for treatment :—

Dental caries	318
Cardiac diseases	30
Varicose veins	133
Albuminuria	21
Oedema	21
Hyperaemia	10
Glycosuria	49

In addition to those attending the Municipal Pre-natal Clinics, the following were the attendances at the pre-natal clinic held at the General Hospital, principally for those who apply for "bookings" at the Maternity Hospital. A small proportion of these patients were referred from other clinics.

No. of patients	966
No. of attendances	6,781

It was unfortunately necessary to refuse bookings to 249 patients.

Infant Welfare Clinics.

Seven afternoon clinics are held per week. Two morning clinics per week are devoted to toddlers. Three sessions are held at the Municipal Clinic and four at the branch clinics. The branch clinics are held in church halls and have not proved to be satisfactory. One such clinic held at St. Mary's Church was transferred to the Municipal Clinic in January, 1947.

The following is a summary of the work at the Infant Clinics :

New attenders during 1947	1,842
Number of attendances	26,266
Number of sessions held	456

Dental Treatment.

The following is a summary of the work carried out by the Maternity and Child Welfare Dental Surgeon :

	<i>No. of Patients.</i>	<i>Ex- tractions.</i>	<i>Con- servative treatment.</i>	<i>General Anaes- thetics.</i>
Children under 5 years	134	164	22	37
Expectant mothers	336	369	163	.....
Nursing mothers	57	44	28	.....

Ultra Violet-ray Treatment.

330 children made 3,380 attendances. Conditions treated were :—

Debility	133
Chest diseases	102
Rickets	80
Skin diseases	8
Other	7

Convalescent Home.

Eight children under school age were admitted and remained for varying periods. A total of 286 in-patients days were spent in the home.

Care of Premature Infants.

The recommendations of the Ministry of Health, with the exception of the provision of electric blankets, have been carried out. In addition, small electric radiators are lent to mothers of premature babies.

During 1947, 112 premature babies were notified. Of these 63 were born at home, eight died during the first 24 hours and 48 survived at the end of the first month. 49 were born in hospital. Of these, two died during the first 24 hours and 39 survived at the end of the first month.

Home Visiting.

During 1947 the Health Visitors paid the following visits to homes:

First visits after notification of birth	2,388
Subsequent visits of children under one year	8,473
Visits to children 1—5 years	9,606
Visits re still births	56
Visits re infant deaths	104
First visits to expectant mothers	635
Subsequent visits	80
Visits to post-natal mothers	553
Visits re midwifery emergency cases	472
Visits re adopted children	105
Visits re ophthalmia neonatorum	16

The Health Visitors attended 826 child welfare clinic sessions and 489 pre-natal clinic sessions.

Day Nurseries.

The following is a statement of the work of the two Daytime Nurseries at Ogle Terrace and Wellington Terrace for the past year. There is accommodation for 40 children in each nursery.

	<i>Ogle Terrace.</i>	<i>Wellington Terrace.</i>
No. of children on the register at end of 1946	43	40
Admissions during 1947 :—		
Under 2 years old	15	15
2—5 years old	16	12
No. of attendances during 1947 :—		
Under 2 years old	2,551	2,265
2—5 years old	5,686	5,917
Average attendance per session :—		
Under 2 years old	8.5	7.6
2—5 years old	19.0	19.8
No. of children on the register at the end of 1947 :—		
Under 2 years old	10	12
2—5 years old	22	24

Taken over the whole year the percentage of children whose mothers were in full employment was 96%, and four per cent. were compassionate cases. In only one case was the mother not in employment.

The nurseries are visited frequently by the Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer.

There was a decrease in the attendances during 1947 on account of the prevalence of whooping cough, mumps, chicken pox and "colds."

Home Help Scheme.

Three full time helps are employed. Although the scheme has been brought to the notice of the public there was not a great demand for the services of a help during the year. The home helps gave assistance in 25 maternity cases.

Table 6.—DEATHS DURING 1947 OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR.
CAUSES AND AGES.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1 week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 4 Weeks.	1-3 Months.	3-6 Months.	6-9 Months.	9-12 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.	Males.	Females.
All causes : Certified	40	4	2	5	51	29	16	10	7	113	63	50
Uncertified .....	.....	.....	.....	1	4	2	3	.....	.....	5	2	3
Smallpox .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Chickenpox .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Measles .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Scarlet fever .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Whooping cough .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Diphtheria and croup .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Erysipelas .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tuberculous meningitis .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	1	.....
Abdominal tuberculosis .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Other tuberculous diseases .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....	1
Meningitis (not tuberculous) .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	2	1	1
Convulsions	1	1	.....	.....	2	.....	2	.....	1	5	2	3
Laryngitis .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Bronchitis .....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	3	1	3	.....	8	6	2
Pneumonia (all forms)	4	1	.....	3	8	12	9	5	1	35	16	19
Diarrhoea .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Enteritis .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	4	.....	2	13	6	7
Gastritis	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....	2	1	1
Syphilis .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Rickets .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Suffocation, overlaying .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	2	2	.....
Injury at birth	4	1	1	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	3	3
Atelectasis	5	1	.....	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	4	2
Congenital malformations	5	.....	.....	.....	5	2	1	.....	.....	8	7	1
Premature birth	20	.....	1	.....	21	1	.....	.....	.....	22	13	9
Atrophy, debility and marasmus .....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	4	.....	.....	.....	5	2	3
Other causes .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	2	.....	2
Total	40	4	2	5	51	31	19	10	7	118	65	53

Net births in the year :—

Legitimate 2,312

Illegitimate 99

Net deaths in the year :—

Legitimate infants 113

Illegitimate 5

Table 7.—DEATHS DURING 1947 OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR: CAUSES AND WARD DISTRIBUTION.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	WARDS.															Total
	Shic- lds	Bea- con	St. Hilda	Had- rian	Hol- born	Lay- gate	Vic- toria	Bents	Reken- dyke	Wes- toe	Deans	Tyne Dok	Simon sid-	West Park	Har- ton	
ALL CAUSES--Certified	...	6	4	7	2	9	11	4	7	5	7	9	17	9	16	113
Uncertified	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	5
Smallpox
Chickenpox
Measles
Scarlet fever
Whooping cough
Diphtheria and croup
Erysipelas
Tuberculous meningitis	1	1
Abdominal tuberculous
(other tuberculous diseases
Meningitis (not tuberculous)	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1
Convulsions	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	1	...	2
Laryngitis	5
Bronchitis	...	2	1	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	8
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	3	2	3	1	2	1	1	2	2	2	4	5	2	5	35
Diarrhoea
Enteritis	1	1	...	...	2	1	...	...	1	...	1	3	3	13
Gastritis	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Syphilis
Rickets
Suffocation, overlaying	1	...	...	1	2
Injury at birth	1	1	...	1	1	1	...	1	1	1	6
Atelectasis	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	6
Congenital malformations	...	1	...	...	1	3	5	1	...	1	2	1	5	1	3	8
Premature birth	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	1	...	1	2	22
Atrophy, debility & marasmus	1	...	1	2	1	...	...	5
Other causes	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Total: deaths under one year	...	6	4	7	3	9	12	4	7	5	8	10	17	9	17	118
Number of births*	19	137	53	121	35	86	179	131	174	145	215	217	223	167	448	2,406
Infant mortality rate*	...	44	75	58	86	105	67	31	40	34	37	46	76	54	38	48

* The births dealt with in this table are (a) 2,396 live births notified under the Public Health Act, and (b) 10 registered and not previously notified; including 56 births in the General Hospital and other maternity homes among non-residents of the Borough. Elsewhere in this report the Registrar General's figures of births registered during the calendar year have been used for the calculation of birth rates.

Table 8.—SUMMARY OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS, 1947, taken at 9-0 a.m. daily at the Bents Park and Health Department, South Shields.

MONTH.	AIR TEMPERATURE.				HYGROMETER				EARTH TEMPERATURE.		RAINFALL. (in inches).				WIND.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																							
	Average		Absolute.		Dry Bulb.	Wet Bulb.	Relative Humidity.	At 1 Foot Depth.	At 4 Feet Depth.	Total Fall.	No. of days rain fell .01" or more.	Most in a day.		Direction at 9 a.m. Number of Days.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																								
			Maximum.	Minimum.								Date.	Minimum.	Date.	N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Calm.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
	Barometer (corrected for elevation, temperature, etc).																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					

